

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 780.—VOL. XXVIII.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1856. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.

## THE AUSTRIAN PROPOSITIONS.

THE substance of the Russian reply to the Austrian propositions for peace has been made public. The Czar notifies his willingness to declare the neutralisation of the Black Sea, and to renounce the protectorate over the Greek subjects of the Sultan; but objects to any "rectification" of his territory on the Pruth or at the mouths of the Danube. He also objects to forego the rebuilding of Bomarsund, or to consent to any limitation of his rights, aggressive or defensive, in the Baltic. But in agreeing to the neutralisation of the Euxine, and the consequent limitation of his naval power in that sea, the Czar, in January, 1856, consents to terms which, in April, 1855, he rejected as incompatible with his personal dignity and the honour of his country. So far there has been progress during the nine months. The sword has partially done its work. If Russia be still to any extent unreasonable, we know the process to employ to bring her ruler to a more peaceable frame of mind. The only argument that touches Russia is the *ultima ratio*. From his point of view the Czar is right in acceding no more to his enemies than they can compel him to yield. From their point of view the Allies will also be right, if they continue to employ the argument which has been to this extent convincing. Sharper sword-thrusts, better-directed efforts, and heavier blows;—such are obviously the only means to produce the stable and honourable peace, and the European security and independence, which are the sole objects of the war.

Europe, and the Allies more especially, have now to consider



HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.  
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what effect these partial but insufficient concessions will have on the extent and character of the contest, and on the mutual relations of the several Powers engaged, or about to be engaged, in it. The failure of Russia to give her "pure and simple" adhesion to the Austrian project places Austria in a new position towards Russia. While remaining on the defensive, the Czar states to Austria, in effect, "I yield what Great Britain and France demanded of me nine months ago. I will not yield what you have now, on your own responsibility, added to their demand. You ask it in your own interest—not in theirs; and I will rather do battle with you than submit to your dictation." What course will Austria pursue under the circumstances? It is difficult to believe that Francis Joseph will quietly accept the humiliation of the refusal, or that he will wriggle out of the dilemma by so unworthy a loophole of escape as that offered to him by the "pure and simple" rupture of diplomatic negotiation. The heavens would not crack if Prince Gortschakoff and all his legation bade their final adieus to the courtly and pleasant Count Buol and the bowery avenues of the Prater; neither would the post-Metternichian deluge burst forth on the unloosing of the little plug, which is kept safe and water-tight, as long as the Esterhazys represent the majesty of Austria on the banks of the Neva. Everything might go on as peacefully as before—and some people are stubborn enough to believe, still more peacefully than before—if there were no such persons employed as Ambassadors, and if plain Consuls were alone left to transact the business of nations. But leaving that question as irrelevant at the present



CHRISTMAS-DAY IN THE CRIMEA.—DINNER OF CAPTAIN BROWN'S COMPANY, 57TH REGIMENT.—SKETCHED BY J. A. CROWE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



time, the wisdom and the spirit of the Austrian Government, if it take no steps more decisive than the issue of Prince Gortschakoff's passport and the recall of Prince Esterhazy, will be questioned in every part of Europe. Whether such doubts, not unmingled with contempt, are of any consequence to the stability of the Austrian empire, as at present constituted, time will show. Yet it seems to us that no State, however great or powerful, can safely consent to any degradation which she has it in her power to avert by honesty and courage; and that considerations of interest, which may perhaps weigh more strongly than those of duty in the balances of Vienna, will link Austria yet more closely to the Western Allies, and widen still more sensibly the moral chasm which now separates her from Russia. She "has passed the Rubicon," and a few days will show whether she have done so merely to pass back again, or to march forward, and fight. The probabilities are that she has made up her mind to act honourably and decisively, and to declare war against the enemy of Europe. If so, *tant mieux pour l'Autriche!*

It is not possible that Great Britain and France will accede to terms which have not even the merit of satisfying their reluctant friend at Vienna; although some short-sighted politicians—and not a few wrong-headed if not wrong-hearted members of that party which prefers peace with dishonour and humiliation to war with honour and dignity—may consider that the counter-propositions of Russia are worthy of acceptance. The one set of reasons would punish Austria for not having, at an earlier period, made common cause with us. To effect this they would make peace on the Black Sea question only—thus leaving Austria to bear the whole brunt of Russian vengeance. The other would, with Mr. Cobden, make peace on any terms whatsoever, and place the victors in the position of the vanquished—leaving to Russia all the honour as well as the advantages of the strife. The universal heart of Great Britain and France repudiates both; the first, because the policy they recommend would be unwise as well as ungenerous;—the second, because the policy, if worthy of such a name, is the policy of dastards and of idiots—a policy that would invite and foment the warfare and the aggression which it loathes, and which would leave Europe to the tender mercies of those who have no mercy, and own no rule but that of the strong hand of ungovernable ambition.

The Emperor of Russia is in a critical position. Great Britain and France have proved—and, if peace be not made, will prove yet more emphatically—that they, unaided either by Austria or by Prussia, are quite able to enforce the justice which he refuses to yield. There is no holding back on their parts, no hesitation, no slackening of exertion, no bating of heart or hope; but, on the contrary, both people and rulers swell to the height of each greater occasion as it arises. In the midst of a struggle that seems to have well-nigh exhausted their opponent, they feel and act as if all they have done was but a preparation for a mightier conflict—a mere warming of their hands in the morning, for the great day's work that lies before them. Whether Austria joins them or not will make no difference to their determination, and but little difference to their tactics. France and England have the power of the screw. They have turned it so effectually as to abate the high pretensions of Russia, and to compel slow Austria to make one move in the right direction, and to render it difficult, if not impossible, for her to refuse to make another. They know how to wield the instrument. What is wanted is the screw upon Russia, Austria, and Prussia. Each requires a little more pressure, and, if unhesitatingly and vigorously applied, it is probable that peace will be the result. Whether the happy consummation will be arrived at before or after a spring campaign will, under present circumstances, depend as much upon the squeezability of Prussia as upon that of Austria. Of this all Europe may be certain, that the time has come when Prussia must either declare herself our friend or our enemy. If she prove a friend the war will speedily close; if not, it will last a little longer; but the result will be the same, and Russia and all who back her will be compelled to yield to force what they have refused to yield to justice.

#### ALLEGED ACCEPTANCE BY RUSSIA OF THE AUSTRIAN PROPOSITIONS.

THE preceding article was in type when the public was startled by a telegraphic announcement in a second edition of the *Times*, under date of Vienna, Wednesday, ten p.m., "that Russia had *unconditionally* accepted the propositions of the Allies," and that the news was "authentic." The Funds rose in consequence; but, as in well-informed quarters little credence was attached to the statement, and as the *Morning Post*, at a later hour, announced, on the authority of a telegraphic despatch from Sir Hamilton Seymour, that Russia merely accepted the Austrian proposals "as a basis for negotiation," the public securities again declined. In fact the Russian answer amounts to little or nothing. All the world knows that the Czar in March last accepted in the same manner the famous "Four Points" as the basis of a pacification, without ever intending to make peace upon them, as the result but too surely proved. What faith can be put in Russia at the present time? What is there in the character of Russian diplomacy to induce the belief that she accepts the larger basis with a sincerer object than she did the smaller one? Between an unconditional acceptance without parley, and the acceptance of a basis to parley about, there is a wide difference. Of course the Allies will not, and ought not to, raise any difficulties in the way of renewed negotiation; but while the diplomatists talk the war must proceed. We hope that peace will result, but we are certainly not sanguine.

THE QUEEN'S PRESENT TO MISS NIGHTINGALE.—The design—suggested by the Prince Consort—of the jewel presented by her Majesty to Miss Nightingale, consists of a St. George's Cross in ruby-red enamel, on a white field, representing England. This is encircled by a black band, typifying the office of charity, on which is inscribed a golden legend, "Blessed are the merciful." The Royal donor is expressed by the letters "V. R." surmounted by a crown in diamonds, impressed upon the centre of the St. George's Cross, from which also rays of gold emanating upon the field of white enamel are supposed to represent the glory of England. Wide-spreading branches of palm, in bright green enamel, tipped with gold, form a framework for the shield; their stems at the bottom being banded with a ribbon of blue enamel (the colour of the ribbon for the Crimean medal), on which, in golden letters, is inscribed "Crimea." At the top of the shield, between the palm branches, and connecting the whole, three brilliant stars of diamonds illustrate the idea of the light of Heaven shed upon the labours of Mercy, Peace, and Charity, in connection with the glory of a nation. On the back of the Royal jewel is an inscription on a golden tablet, written by her Majesty, recording it to be a gift and testimonial in memory of services rendered to her brave army by Miss Nightingale. The jewel is about three inches in depth by two and a half in width. It is to be worn, not as a brooch or ornament, but rather as the badge of an order.

#### HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

RUMOUR has been for some time past busy with the name of the young Empress of Russia as a personage who exercises no inconsiderable influence over the mind of her Imperial husband, and more especially as being steadily the advocate of peaceful measures. In Russia, as we all know, there are two great parties—the Muscovite and the German. They are as antagonistic in the principles of their policy as in their objects of ambition. In the Council chamber, in the Army and Navy, in the Administrative departments, and even in the saloons of the Emperor, they maintain an eternal and intestine rivalry which only the predominant and despotic authority of the Crown can temper and control. Without going the length of saying that the Empress is at the head of one of these parties—for it would be contrary to her nature and character to take part against any of the subjects of her husband—she is, nevertheless, looked up to with veneration and hope by those with whom she sympathises in origin and language. If at the present moment she is desirous of peace, it would be too much to affirm that a consideration of the evils which a universal war would bring upon her Fatherland does not, even unconsciously to herself, influence her in endeavouring to give that tone to the policy of the country of her adoption. For her Majesty is thoroughly German in her character, although a sense of duty and the influence of associations have led her entirely to identify herself with the interests of her husband and of the nation over which he rules. The whole of her early life, and most of it since her marriage, was spent in the Hessian dominions—from which she can only be said to have been finally severed when called on to mount the throne of Russia.

Some twenty years ago the traveller in the mountainous regions in the neighbourhood of Darmstadt might have encountered and have stopped involuntarily to admire—perhaps on the wayside, perhaps in some peasant's cottage, perhaps ascending the mountain's side—one of the loveliest of God's creatures. The same traveller might also have encountered her in the streets of Darmstadt, running about that quiet little town, making her visits or her purchases, and attended, perhaps, by only a waiting-maid, like any other lady promenade. The lady was the Princess Mary of Oldenburg, the present Empress of Russia.

Some ridiculous stories used to be circulated as to the Princess, which we only notice here because their contradiction may warn the credulous, always too prone to believe the most extravagant fables with respect to Royal personages. In consequence of her extraordinary beauty, and the frank simplicity of her character, and the pleasure she took in escaping from the ceremonies of State and Court life, it was circulated that she had been treated with neglect and disdain by her relatives; that, in short, she was a kind of Cinderella, to whom her sisters—or, as according to some others, her cousins—were preferred. These were mere inventions. The Princess Mary has always been, and, notwithstanding her elevation to the Russian throne, still is, a favourite with the good people of Darmstadt, whose affection is amply justified by her extreme affability and beauty.

While thus she lived a life of happy freedom the event that was to decide her fate in life was approaching. About the year 1840 the present Emperor Alexander II., then the Csesarewitch, was sent by his father, the late Emperor Nicholas, on a tour through Europe in search of a wife. He visited several German Courts, where the brilliancy of the prize exposed him to all the seductions and temptations which usually assail a man who is known to have come on such a mission. In vain was he introduced to the various Princesses of the reigning houses. From all he passed unscathed till he reached Hesse Darmstadt; but there his fate was sealed. One of the peculiar characteristics of the Russian Court is its combination of extreme refinement and elegance with an almost patriarchal simplicity in domestic life. In the young Princess Mary—then about sixteen years of age—the Csesarewitch saw the ideal of a wife, and he became enamoured of her at once. Within a year they were married, the Princess changing her original names, Maximilienne Wilhelmina Augusta Sophia Maria, into the Marie Alexandrowna, by which she is known to the Russian people.

The Empress of Russia was born on the 8th of August, 1824. She was the daughter of Louis II., the late Grand Duke of Hesse, and was married to the present Emperor of Russia on the 16th of April, 1841. Her Majesty has five children, three sons and two daughters. Her elder brother, the reigning Duke of Hesse, has recently used his utmost efforts to second his sister in her great aim—that of arriving at a restoration of peace. Although at war with the Russians, we have learned to respect their many great qualities; and it is a still more softening influence over the asperities engendered by strife to know that the illustrious lady who shares the Russian throne is herself an apostle of peace, civilisation, and progress.

#### CHRISTMAS-DAY IN THE CRIMEA.

(From our Artist and Special Correspondent.)

CAMP, SECOND DIVISION, Dec. 26, 1855.

It was "creditable to be jolly" under our circumstances; and those who were so deserved it, for their lightness of heart under a load of privations. Yesterday the mess-tables of the regiments more resembled those of England than the impoverished arrangements of a winter camp. Plum-puddings sent out from England had failed to arrive, as a matter of course; but our military cooks had their own, of fresher and equally good materials. The chief losers were the sutlers, who were to be seen groaning over the retention of 2000 puddings at Constantinople, or a thousand and more stowed under planks and warm clothing at Balaklava. Whilst the officers in their various messes thus surrounded themselves with the good cheer of the season, they were not unmindful, at the same time, of the welfare of their men, and a vast system of dinners by companies was organised throughout the Camp with the greatest success. Money subscribed by the soldiers amongst themselves was added to sums clubbed for them by their officers, and the most sumptuous repasts were spread out upon improvised tables, rigged in naval fashion and suspended by leathern thongs from the roofs of the huts. These were feeds surrounded by all the pomp and circumstance of war, for the soldiers' muskets were slung over their heads, their cartouches-boxes near them, whilst their packs decorated the rafters. When the eatables had been discussed, grog and porter followed, and toasts were given round amidst enthusiastic cheers. Absent friends were thought of without the expression of hopes for their enjoyment of better fare than had graced the board that day, the feeling being rather—may they enjoy themselves as well as we do; and if they fight as we did may they have our reward! There the jovial songs so dear to soldiers reverberated through the wooden edifices, and were more remarkable for their noisiness than for musical qualities. There were hurrahs for the "Girls we left behind us;" murmured applause for the "Old house at home;" and choruses of a hundred voices for glees, which of all English music are perhaps the dearest and the best to real English hearts.

Whilst feasting without its outer show of holly-berries and mistletoe were the order of the day in our camps, the Russians spent their time in quick though useless discharges of their guns from the north side, finding no more appropriate objects to fire at than the holiday folk taking a turn in the sunshine and loitering amidst the ruins of Sebastopol. Nor was a contrast wanting between our camps and those of the French, where the day was marked by no change: the ill-fed soldiers calling round at their usual haunts in search of biscuit, or cadging for what else they could pick up. One soldier in particular struck me as I was sketching in the hut of Captain Brown, of the 57th, under the care of Colour-Sergeant Macgann. He walked up to the door of the hut, looked in, and seeing the crowd devouring their plum-pudding, he slowly retreated, heaving a sigh which was visible as it escaped into the frosty air, and disappeared with a look which almost said, "Is this what they call camp life in winter quarters near the enemy?" went on his weary rounds, asking at the doors of the huts, "Johnny, as tu du biscuit?"

THE POLISH LEGION.—General Zamoyski has just addressed to his countrymen and his old companions in arms, in the form of a report to Prince Czartoryski, a circular, in which he informs them that he is charged by the British Government, with the assent of France and Turkey, to organise a division composed of Poles, bearing the name of the "Polish Division of Cossacks of the Sultan," and destined to receive into its ranks Polish prisoners of war, or others who may quit the Russian army. This division will, at first, be composed of a brigade of infantry of two regiments; of a battalion of foot chasseurs and of two regiments of cavalry. A first regiment of cavalry has already been formed, and is now at Varso, and the formation of the first regiment of infantry is far advanced at Scutari. General Zamoyski, having to appoint a considerable number of officers of all ranks, requests his old comrades of the Polish army to send in their applications, with documents proving their rank, to a commission which has been formed by Prince Czartoryski for examining them. These applications must be addressed to the agency of the Polish division of the Cossacks, 3, Rue Bretonville, Paris, before the 28th inst., as the appointments are to be made on the 1st February.

#### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

##### FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS Thursday.

It appears that a variety of highly-important measures of State are in preparation in anticipation of the birth of an heir to the Imperial crown—measures relative to the continuation of the present dynasty of the greatest interest and significance. At the first ball at the Tuilleries her Majesty appeared; but did not, as usual, make the rounds of the salons, nor enter into conversation with any of the guests, except Lady Cowley. Her Majesty retired at an early hour, appearing somewhat fatigued. The absence of the Princes Jérôme and Napoléon from the Tuilleries, which formed the subject of general remark, is, it is whispered, owing to the dissatisfaction caused by certain difficulties made to the promotion of some of the officers about the persons of their Imperial Highnesses—officers especially recommended by them for advancement. An interview has taken place between the Prince Jérôme and the Maréchal Vaillant on the subject, in which the sentiments of the former have been most decidedly expressed, the Prince feeling to a certain degree responsible for the welfare of the officers taken from under the authority of their own commanders to be on his staff.

A magnificent fête is to be given at the Ministre d'Etat in honour of the inauguration at the new Louvre. The ball at the Hôtel de Ville is deferred.

The new arrangement in England with respect to the postal transport of books and other printed productions is about to be also adopted here, and a project for further amelioration on this subject is proposed to be brought forward at the next sitting of the Corps Législatif. But while on this point we would direct attention to a part of the regulation which, as it now stands with regard to the transport between England and France, entirely destroys the benefits of the arrangement to a certain and a sufficiently large class, under peculiar circumstances—we allude to authors during the process of correcting proofs. A word, a letter, a mere sign, written on the margin of the sheets, either by printer or author, takes away his privilege, and the packet becomes subject to the same regulation as a letter, and pays by weight—thus causing an unavoidable and frequently heavy expense, to those, moreover, whose profession exposes them to the constant recurrence of the inconvenience.

The hard frosts that concluded last week have once more given way to thaw and rain. It is to be hoped the latter may not continue, as already many parts in the southern and in other departments have suffered much from heavy rains and consequent inundations.

A variety of reports have been spread respecting the reorganisation of the Ecole Polytechnique. It appears, however, that the proposed changes go no further than removing therefrom the civil part of the institution, which is to be established in the Ecole Centrale of the Quartier St. Antoine and making the Polytechnique wholly a military college. It is also probable that it will be removed to another locality, and that the present building will be converted into a barrack.

The organisation of the French army has been so much admired by the King of Sardinia that he has resolved on introducing various parts of the system into his own. Among other innovations, he has decided on substituting the statutes of the Legion of Honour for those now existing with regard to the Orders of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, by which grades formerly non-existent are introduced, and others are modified.

Of the 103 magnificent copies of the "Imitation de Jésus Christ" which gained the grand medal for the Impériale Imprimerie at the late Exhibition, the Emperor has purchased 73. The 30 remaining copies were confided to the library of Victor Masson, under the express condition that they should only be sold in a manner worthy of so remarkable a production. After the Emperor and Empress's copies were delivered the next was presented to the Pope, another having been offered by the Emperor to the Queen at the period of her visit to Paris.

The Empress has just enriched the Museum of Natural History by the gift of two animals of a species not hitherto belonging to any zoological establishment in Europe. These creatures partake of the nature of the horse and of the wild ass. They were known by description to the Museum, but it did not possess even a skin or skeleton of these rare animals, which have been presented to her Majesty by the Viceroy of Egypt.

At the Tuilleries the evenings fixed for the balls and soirées are the 19th and 29th inst., and the 4th February; the Princesse Mathilde gives a ball on the 17th inst. (this evening).

The entrance of the second division of the troops returning from the East has been, from some mismanagement, a source of much disappointment alike to them and to the Parisians. No announcement on the subject having been issued, the weary army entered Paris on a wet, miserable day, ankle-deep in mud, fatigued and drenched, and passed through to their various quarters, unrecognised, and consequently unwelcomed by those who would have given them a warm and cordial greeting. At the review, passed before the Emperor, every attempt was made to manifest how unintentional was the apparent neglect; but the first impression must have been none the less painful and discouraging at the time.

Another name has just been added to the already too-long obituary-list of celebrities carried off within a short space—that of David (d'Angers) so called from the name of his native town, added to distinguish him from several other sufficiently remarkable artists similarly entitled. David d'Angers was born in 1789. The son of a poor wood-carver, his genius for sculpture early developed itself; but being checked by his father, who wished to apprentice him to a trade, the boy's despair was so great that he attempted to poison himself—happily in vain. Aided at last by a more enlightened friend of the family, he came to Paris, entered on the profession Nature had destined for him, and through poverty, discouragement, and political difficulties—for the child of '89 was baptised in the troubled waters of the period that gave him birth, and never altered the bias of his opinions—he fought his way to fame and excellence, till the name of David d'Angers stood among the uppermost ranks in the list of modern sculptors. His funeral was the meeting-point of some of the most remarkable illustrations of the Democratic party now remaining in Paris, as well as of the principal artists. Béranger became on this occasion the object of a complete ovation on the part of some of the young men assembled. A discourse was pronounced by M. Halévy, the perpetual secretary of the Institute: a second had been prepared by the sculptor Etex, but was not read, as it was considered inadvisable to do so in the interest of the order and tranquillity it might prove difficult to maintain with such elements assembled. Nothing, however, transpired to disturb the solemn nature of the meeting, which dispersed with perfect order.

Last week took place the first representation at the Opera, in honour of the return of the Army, at which the Emperor, the Empress, and the Duke of Cambridge appeared. A large number of the troops might have profited by the occasion, for the house was by no means full.

#### FRENCH FINANCIAL REPORT.

The *Moniteur* of Wednesday publishes the report of the Minister of Finance to the Emperor upon the financial condition of France. The report concludes as follows:—

To resume, Sire. This simple sketch of the principal financial events of the past year shows us a commercial activity without a parallel; unheard-of progress in consumption; two enormous loans, paid up with the greatest regularity, and in a great measure before the payments were due; besides the loans, more than 138,000,000f.—a sum which had never before been known to have been employed in the purchase of rentes for the departments; the direct contributions paid by anticipation, and



almost without expense; a well-balanced budget; the floating debt reduced; and all this despite the war, despite the crisis in the high price of food, despite the very considerable outlay which accidental circumstances imposed upon us. What greater proof could be given of the vitality and richness of the country, and of all that France is capable of under a popular Government, with such resources wisely employed? Extravagance alone might be feared. Your Majesty will know how to obviate that danger by your high prudence, by firmly opposing the inconsiderate temptations of speculation, and by adjourning, in the interest of the enterprises already commenced, all those which do not bear the evident mark of urgency.

#### THE PEACE PROPOSALS—RUSSIA'S ACCEPTANCE.

The following narrative of what took place when the Russian answer was received is by the Vienna Correspondent of the *Times*, in a letter dated Jan. 12:—

On Friday, the 11th January, a "Feldjäger," who had quitted St. Petersburg on Saturday, the 5th, reached this city with despatches for Prince Gortschakoff, and before noon on the same day the latter had called on the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and communicated to him their contents, which were neither more nor less than the reply of the Russian Government to the propositions made by Count Valentini Esterhazy in the name of this Government. The conditions relating to the Danube, to the neutralisation of the Black Sea, and to the Christian population of the Porte, were accepted; although the St. Petersburg Cabinet proposed that they should be worded in a somewhat different way. The alterations proposed were, however, unimportant, and the Allies would hardly have objected to them, had not the Russian Cabinet refused to agree to one of the stipulations contained in the first point, which—as your readers will probably recollect—relates to the Danubian Principalities. The stipulation referred to is the following:—

"As an equivalent for the fortified places and territory now occupied by the Allied armies, Russia agrees to a 'rectification' of her frontiers towards Turkey in Europe."

In its reply the St. Petersburg Cabinet took no notice whatever of the demand made by the Powers, that a part of Bessarabia should be ceded to Turkey; but it expressed its readiness to restore to Turkey the territory which it recently had lost in Asia Minor, if the Western Powers would agree to withdraw from the Crimea. In a word, Russia considers the Pacha of Kars a fair equivalent for Kinburn, Eupatoria, Sebastopol, Kamiesch, Balacava, Kertch, and Yenikale.

As Prince Gortschakoff expressed a wish to be made acquainted with the definitive resolution of the Allied Powers without any loss of time, Count Buol promised to give him the required information within twenty-four hours. As soon as the Russian diplomatist left the Foreign-office Count Buol hurried to his Imperial master, and, after having communicated to him what had occurred, and received his instructions, he held prolonged consultations with Sir Hamilton Seymour and M. de Bourqueney. Yesterday morning the three Allied Governments had already resolved on the course to be pursued; and when Prince Gortschakoff, at one o'clock, called at the Foreign-office, he learned from Count Buol that Austria, France, and England rejected the counter-propositions which had been made by Russia. Positive orders were yesterday sent to Count Esterhazy to quit St. Petersburg on the 18th, if the original propositions were not previously accepted *purement et simplement* by the Russian Government. Something has been said of a cession of the Danubian Islands; but such a proposal would not be taken into consideration, as the three great Powers have resolved to deprive Russia of the power to invade the Danubian Principalities at pleasure. During the last thirty-six hours the Austro-Russian party has done all in its power to shake the resolution of the Emperor, but his Majesty is as firm as a rock. A hundred conflicting reports are in circulation relative to the Russian counter-propositions, and it may, therefore, be well to observe that the information given above is perfectly authentic.

#### AMERICA—THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The mail-steamer *Asia*, which sailed from New York on the 1st inst., arrived at Liverpool on Monday last. The Message of the President was read before the Senate, at Washington, on 31st December. The House of Representatives had not at the time elected a Speaker, and great excitement was produced when the President's Message was announced. After a fierce debate, it was decided, by 87 against 126, that the Message should not be read until the House was organised.

At the outset the President alluded to the satisfactory condition of tranquillity in which the Republic was, and then proceeded to give an account of the difference with Great Britain regarding the terms of the Bulwer-Clayton treaty:—

By the Convention of 1850 complete independence was secured to the States of Central America, and all claims on the part of either England or America were thereby relinquished, and no dominion was to be assumed by either. On his (the President's) accession to office, it became apparent that Great Britain still continued in the exercise of assertion of large authority in all that part of Central America commonly called the Mosquito coast, and covering the entire length of the State of Nicaragua, and a part of Costa Rica; that she regarded the Belize as her absolute domain, and was gradually extending its limits at the expense of the State of Honduras; and that she had firmly colonised a considerable insular group known as the Bay of Islands, and belonging of right to that State. All these acts and pretensions, being contrary to the tenor of the convention, have been made the subject of negotiations, through the Ambassador in London. The correspondence between the two Governments shows a wide divergence of view between them as to the stipulations of the convention; Great Britain maintaining her Mosquito sovereignty—a sovereignty which, as derived from the acts of Indians, is not recognised by the public law of Europe or America. Yet these rights have been reasserted as against the Central American States, the legitimate successors of all the rights of Spain to the territory. On the eastern coast of Nicaragua the interference of Britain appears in the shape of a protectorate over the Mosquito tribe of Indians. But the Belize and Honduras establishments approach to colonial governments as much as do those of Canada or Jamaica. It was impossible for the United States' Government to acquiesce in such a construction of the convention. To a renewed call by this Government upon Great Britain, to abide by, and carry into effect, the stipulations of the convention according to its obvious import, by withdrawing from the possession or colonisation of portions of the Central American States of Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, the British Government has at length replied, affirming that the operation of the treaty is prospective only, and did not require Great Britain to abandon or contract any possessions held by her in Central America at the date of its conclusion. The United States' Government, simply desiring the fulfilment of the convention in its essence and spirit, has not looked to rights which it might assert, independently of the treaty, in consideration of its geographical position, and other circumstances. The British Government, in its last communication, still declares that it sees no reason why a conciliatory spirit may not enable the two Governments to overcome all obstacles to a satisfactory adjustment of the subject. On this subject the President concludes:—"Assured of the correctness of the construction of the treaty constantly adhered to by this Government, and resolved to insist on the rights of the United States, yet actuated also by the same desire which is avowed by the British Government, to remove all causes of serious misunderstanding between two nations associated by so many ties of interest and kindred, it has appeared to me proper not to consider an amicable solution of the controversy hopeless. There is, however, reason to apprehend that with Great Britain in the actual occupation of the disputed territories, and the treaty therefore practically null, so far as regards our rights, this international difficulty cannot long remain undetermined without involving in serious danger the friendly relations which it is the interest as well as the duty of both countries to cherish and preserve. It will afford me sincere gratification if future efforts shall result in the success anticipated heretofore with more confidence than the aspect of the case permits me now to entertain."

In regard to the difference with England arising out of her violation of the United States' neutrality laws, by the attempt to raise recruits within her borders, the President presents no definitive view of the case. He has demanded of the British Government not only a cessation of the wrong, but its reparation; yet nothing specific is disclosed concerning the character of the reparation demanded or the disposition of the English Government to make it. The subject is yet under discussion.

In reference to the Sound Dues of Denmark, it is stated that the invitation to the United States' Government to go into a convention with the representatives of all European States for the capitalisation of the dues, has been declined, though a willingness is expressed to compensate Denmark for all of her outlay in improving the navigation of the Sound or Belts.

The difficulties with France, Spain, and Greece are all pronounced settled, or nearly settled.

Affairs were quiet at Nicaragua, and General Walker had dispatched a battalion to Honduras to assist the President.

Advices from Mexico report the resignation of Alvarez, and the election of General Comonfort. The following is the new Ministry:—Foreign relations, Rosa; Justice, Montes; Government, Lafraquia; War, Selcio; Finance, Payne. Alvarez had departed for the south.

**TITHE COMMUTATION.**—The result of the corn averages for the ten years to Christmas last is that each £100 of tithe-rent charge will amount to £93 18s. 1½d. for 1856, which is rather more than 4 per cent above last year's value.

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE President of the United States has committed an act which makes a patriot recur to the window at Whitehall, or at least to the resolution of February, 1689. The King of the States has ventured on a *coup d'état*. The House of Representatives, having met, was unable to choose a Speaker, owing to the fierce struggle of parties; the key to which is said to be the fact that his Majesty, Frankland Pierce, has utterly lost the confidence of all the worthier part of the American people, owing to their belief in his reckless willingness to embroil them with this or any other foreign nation, for the sake of creating for himself a war popularity. Regarded by this light, the hostility of the Representatives may be considered as a protest, on the people's part, against the sordid manoeuvres of the White House. But the President's "Message" had been prepared with great elaboration, and privately printed, under lock and key, it is said, in his own residence, and the continued delay wore out the patience of Mr. Pierce. So, just before the last mail left, he sent in his secretary, Mr. Sidney Webster, with the document. The Representatives were naturally indignant, and declared that the Constitution had been violated; that the Message must be sent to them as a body, which was incomplete until a Speaker had been chosen; and that the President had at once committed a crime and offered an insult. The Sovereign's Message was not received; but the consideration of it was ordered to be adjourned. The next report will be interesting.

According to certain terrified writers, the British Constitution has also been violated, and ruin is impending. The House of Lords and the Throne itself are menaced through the expected abolition of the rights gained by primogeniture. Why these rights are expected to be abolished will naturally be the next question; and the answer is, that Judge Parke, whose retirement from the Bench we have already chronicled, takes the title of Lord Wensleydale, his patent limiting the existence of such peerage to "his own natural life." The honour is granted to the man who has earned it, but it is not to be transmitted to somebody who has not earned it, but happens to be related to the man who has. We have heard no official explanation of the arrangement; but if it is intended as a precedent we are heartily glad to record it. The House of Lords—whose judicial functions are a laughing-stock to the country, owing to the ridiculously insufficient and irregular character of the proceedings—requires strengthening by the presence and advice of able lawyers; but a lawyer ought to have done some very remarkable service to his country before his heirs for ever are presented with an irresponsible share in the government of the people. These peerages for life seem extremely well calculated to meet the difficulty; and, as a general rule, this is the kind of honour which should be awarded to a successful soldier or lawyer, as it is to the successful member of the nobler and holier profession of a spiritual teacher. Why should Lord Sabretash, or Lord Barnwell-and-Adolphus, leave us his son or nephew as our ruler, while the Right Rev. Lord Rubric is content with a life interest in his baronial coronet?

Sir William Codrington's despatch upon the subject of drunkenness in the British army is entitled to respect rather than the honourable feeling which prompted it than from its fairness or its logic. The gallant General is indignant that "the fathers and mothers and wives and sisters of the soldiery should be taught to think that they do nothing but drink;" and he does right to be angry. But military reasoning (always excepting the *ultima ratio regum*) is not invariably convincing; and in this short letter the Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea has managed to entangle himself in two awkwardnesses. He appeals to the number of "crimes of drunkenness" as very small, "not more than one man in two days per company, estimated at 100 men." "Crimes of drunkenness" is a technical phrase, meaning crimes which the authorities punish. The fact notoriously is that the men, for lack of mental employment, and for want of that intercourse with their officers which would have prevented much vulgar vice, used to lie about among the tents in every state of intoxication, but without, in most cases, incurring penalties which the half-ashamed authorities were not in any hurry to enforce. We blame the soldiers in a modified degree only; they had money given them, drink-shops opened to them, and no better provision offered to them; but it would be absurd to deny the facts brought out by the letters from the Camp. Things will be better; means are being afforded to the men to send home their pay; books and newspapers are more largely supplied, and a good many of the grog-shops are abolished; and we do not quarrel with the General for being annoyed at the exposure, or for putting a good face upon the state of things as early as he could do so. But it was hardly worth while to play with phrases, or even to tell ignorant civilians to estimate the "companies" all round the army at one hundred, when it is notorious in the Camp that fifty—a number that materially alters the gallant General's calculations—would now be nearer the mark. Finally, our noble fellows in the Crimea may be assured that we in England know that they do much more than drink—that they work, watch, fortify, and fight, at need; and that, if their friends of the press—the best friends an army ever had since war was invented—point out a bad system and illustrate its evils, it is that the system may be amended.

Whatever may be thought of the Bishop of Exeter's views in ecclesiastical matters, there can be no doubt of his readiness and dexterity. It was not to be expected that his Lordship would omit notice of the decision of Dr. Lushington for removing the millinery and medieval toys which one set of weak-minded people stick about the churches, to the frightful scandal of another set of weak-minded people, who are thereby prevented from worshipping. He has addressed the Doctor, vindicated the Puseyite ceremonies, and even intimated that he should not object to see the sacramental oblations carried in a procession. And with theological dexterity he flings in the case of Judas, who, when "the box of ointment, very precious," was broken at the feet of the Redeemer, complained of such a "waste," when the ointment might have been sold for a large price, to be given to the poor. Placing Mr. Hope and the other wealthy Belgravians who lavish their gold in decorating their churches in the position of the humble bearer of the ointment, the Bishop finds in their opponents a strong likeness to "Judas, that distinguished advocate for simplicity in devotion."

The Duke of Argyll has been afflicting a portion of his tenantry with a curious little Maine Liquor Law of his own invention. He has issued his high command—no *brutum fulmen* where a landlord, with powers of eviction, is the Olympian Jove—that none of his tenants in a certain district shall use whisky, or other intoxicating liquors, at rejoicings, funerals, or other assemblages. But his Grace has been pleased to draw a line, of the working of which those who do not know the property can scarcely form an idea. The tenants who come under this interdicting rule are those who do not pay more than £30 a year. We are not likely to be accused of joining in any vulgar claptrap about aristocratic tyranny, of one law for the rich and another for the poor; but it appears to us that the principle upon which such interference with social habits is based is a vicious one, and that such arbitrary edicts more nearly resemble the logical and practical sort of legislation which might emanate from some well-meaning, hasty feminine law-giver, who would reform the world at a stroke from her drawing-room window, than the rational administration of a landlord who, as a statesman and a philosopher, must know that people are not to be made virtuous by force.

**POPULATION OF ROME.**—The *Moniteur* (January 6) announces that the General Vicariate of Rome has just published an official census of the population of Rome, for the year 1855. In all, there are 177,461 inhabitants; among whom there are 36 bishops, 1226 secular priests, 2213 monks and other religious personages, 1912 nuns, and 687 seminarists. At Rome, therefore, there are, in all, 6081 priests, monks, nuns, or seminarists—that is to say, one to every 35 inhabitants.

#### OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

##### THE MARQUIS TOWNSHEND.

GEORGE FERRARS TOWNSHEND, third Marquis Townshend, of Raynham, in the co. of Norfolk, and Baron de Ferrars of Chartley, Baron Basset of Drayton, Baron Lovaine, Bouchier, Compton of Compton, and Townshend of Lynn Regis, in the co. of Norfolk, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, a Baronet, and High Steward of Tamworth, was the eldest son of George, the second Marquis, by his wife, Charlotte, second daughter of Eton Mainwaring Ellerker, Esq., of Risby Park, Yorkshire. He was born the 13th Dec., 1778, and succeeded his father, as third Marquis, the 27th July, 1811. He married, the 12th May, 1807, Sarah Gardner, daughter of the late William Dunn Gardner; but was separated from her a year after the marriage. The Marquis Townshend died about a fortnight ago, at his villa near Genoa. He has had no issue, and is succeeded by his cousin, Capt. John Townshend, R.N., of Ball's Park, Herts, M.P. for Tamworth, now the fourth Marquis, who is married to Elizabeth Jane, eldest daughter of the late Rear-Admiral Lord George Stuart, and has issue a son and three daughters.

##### THE RIGHT HON. H. GOULBURN, M.P.

THE Right Hon. Henry Goulburn, of Betchworth House, Woking, Surrey, M.P. for the University of Cambridge, was the eldest son of the late Munbee Goulburn, Esq., of Portland-place, by his wife Susan, daughter of William, fourth Viscount Chetwynd. He was born the 19th March, 1784. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. in 1808, having the year previously been returned to the House of Commons for the borough of Horsham. Mr. Goulburn married, the 21st Dec., 1811, Jane, third daughter of Matthew, fourth Lord Rokeby, and sister of the sixth Lord Rokeby, who is now with the army in the Crimea. Mr. Goulburn was made Under Secretary of State for the Home Department in 1810, under the Duke of Portland's Ministry, and continued in office during the administration of his Grace's successor, the unfortunate Spencer Perceval. At the general election in 1812 Mr. Goulburn was elected M.P. for St. Germans. In the same year he was appointed Under Secretary for the Colonies, an office he held up to 1821. In 1818 he was returned to the House of Commons for West Looe, and from 1826 to 1831 he sat for Armagh. He accepted the post of Chief Secretary for Ireland in 1821, and was then made a Privy Councillor. He held the chief Secretaryship under the several Administrations of the Earl of Liverpool, Viscount Goderich, George Canning, and the Duke of Wellington; and in March, 1828, he was made Chancellor of the Exchequer. He continued at the head of the Financial Department until the Duke of Wellington retired, in January, 1830. At the general election in 1831 Mr. Goulburn was first elected one of the M.P.s for the University of Cambridge. Since then the right honourable gentleman has continued to represent the University, not without occasional opposition—particularly on a recent election, when he was opposed by Lord Feilding. On the formation of Sir Robert Peel's first Ministry, in December, 1834, Mr. Goulburn was appointed Secretary of State for the Home Department, which he held till the Administration broke up in April following. When Sir R. Peel was again called upon, in Sept., 1841, to take office, he selected Mr. Goulburn for Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which office he materially assisted the Premier in his financial and free-trade measures. Mr. Goulburn did not join, like many of his former colleagues in office, the Earl of Aberdeen's Government, although he invariably gave the Ministry his independent support, and was among the minority in the division on Mr. Roebuck's motion in January last year. Since he retired with the late Sir Robert Peel, in the summer of 1846, the right hon. gentleman has taken no very active part in politics, but has always supported those measures he deemed necessary to fully carry out the views of Sir Robert on the policy of free-trade. The late Sir Robert Peel appointed him one of his executors (Viscount Hardinge being the other), and guardian to his children until they attained their majority. Mr. Goulburn died on the 12th inst., at his seat, Betchworth House, near Dorking; he leaves issue two sons and a daughter. The right hon. gentleman's only brother is Edward Goulburn, Esq., Sergeant-at-Law, and a Commissioner of Bankruptcy; whose third wife, Catherine, second daughter of the fourth Lord Rokeby, is sister of the Right Hon. Henry Goulburn's widow.

##### MR. SERJEANT ADAMS.

JOHN ADAMS, Esq., Sergeant-at-Law, and Assistant Judge of the Middlesex Quarter Sessions, was the third son of Simon Adams, Esq., of Ansty Hall, in the county of Warwick, Recorder of Daventry, by his wife, Sarah, daughter of Cadwallader Coker, Esq., of Biicester. Mr. Serjeant Adams was born in 1786; and, having early in life adopted the legal profession, he practised with marked success on the Midland Circuit, and attained the rank of Serjeant-at-Law. He was also the author of a useful essay on the subject of ejectment. Some twenty years ago Mr. Serjeant Adams was chosen Chairman of the Middlesex Sessions; and when the salary of Assistant Judge of those Sessions was created by Act of Parliament, he was the first Judge appointed; and he has since continued to preside at the Sessions trials in Middlesex and Westminster up to the time of his death with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. Mr. Serjeant Adams, though eccentric and somewhat rough and abrupt in his manner, possessed much knowledge and sound sense. He was a humane man, and a thoroughly honourable and upright judge. He had too, an honesty and a firmness of purpose that made him always respected. He took great interest in the improvement of the Criminal Law, and in all the plans proposed for the disposal and reformation of culprits. He frequently put forth his views and notions on these themes in essays and letters ably written. In private life Mr. Serjeant Adams was also very generally esteemed and respected. Mr. Serjeant Adams married first, in 1811, Eliza, only daughter of William Nation, Esq., of Exeter, by whom—who died in 1814—he had two sons, viz., John Adams, Esq., a Chancery barrister, author of "The Doctrine of Equity," who died in September, 1848, and the Rev. William Adams, author of "The Shadow of the Cross," who died in January, 1848. Mr. Serjeant Adams married secondly, in 1817, Jane, daughter of Thomas Martin, Esq., of Nottingham, and by her (who died in 1825) he had a son, the Rev. Henry Cadwallader Adams. The Serjeant married, thirdly in 1826, Charlotte Priscilla, daughter and heiress of John Coker, Esq., and by her has had three sons, the eldest of whom is the Rev. Coker Adams, Fellow of New College, Oxford. Mr. Serjeant Adams died on the 10th inst., at his house, 9, Hyde-park-street.

##### DR. WEBB, MASTER OF CLARE HALL.

THE Rev. William Webb, D.D., F.L.S., Master of Clare Hall College, Cambridge, was born in February, 1775, at Sutton Coldfield, near Birmingham, and died on the 4th inst., at the Vicarage of Lillingdon, Cambridgeshire. His father was master of Bishop Vesey's Grammar School at Sutton Coldfield, and his mother's maiden name was Barratt. He was educated at home until sent to Clare Hall, Cambridge, in the year 1793. He graduated here in 1797, and was subsequently a fellow and tutor of the College. He succeeded Dr. Torkington as its master in 1815, and became soon after Vicar of Lillingdon, Cambridgeshire. He married, in 1815, Ann, daughter of the Rev. Theodore V. Gould, late Rector of Fornham, by which lady (who survives him) he has had two sons and a daughter, of whom the youngest alone is now living. In politics Dr. Webb was a staunch Tory; he was Chairman of the Election Committees. He opposed the present University reforms. He was an antiquarian and botanist, and has left a very valuable library of topographical, antiquarian, and botanical works.

**ERRATUM.**—In the Obituary in our Journal of Jan. 5, for "Yeckson" read *Dickson*.

#### THE BRITISH ARMY POST-OFFICE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

(From our Special Artist.)

I SEND you a Sketch of the interior of the British Army Post-office in Constantinople, an establishment of no mean importance in the vast military operations now going on in the East; conferring, as it does, such advantages both on the Army and Navy, and in the midst of strife and bloodshed keeping up home ties, and carrying us back in thought to our peaceful firesides.

The staff employed consists of a postmaster, and three assistant postmasters; eight clerks, who have been selected from the General Post-office in London; and two natives of Constantinople, who act chiefly as interpreters; for, though it was established as a British Army Post, many letters pass through it to and from the soldiers in the Turkish Contingent, &c. Two of the postmasters and three of the clerks are employed in the Post-office in the Crimea, assisted by two intelligent non-commissioned officers.

The scene on the arrival and departure of the mails is one of the greatest activity. The boat from Marseilles brings from twenty to twenty-five bags, each as much as one of our strong-backed hamals (or porters) can stagger under, and the number of letters is said to exceed 12,000, and that of the papers 8000. This vast number is sorted into regiments, brigades, and divisions, and dispatched to the Crimea and Scutari in the short space of two hours. The courtesy and attention shown by the officials in this establishment to the public presents a vast contrast to the *brusquerie* of the other post-offices in this city.





THE BRITISH ARMY POST-OFFICE, CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



S K E T C H E S I N T H E C R I M E A .



ALOUCHTA.—FROM A SKETCH BY WILLIBALD RICHTER.

ALOUCHTA.

MODERN travellers in the Crimea all unite in extolling the beauty of the coast scenery in the neighbourhood of Alouchta—a town situated on the southern shore of that peninsula, nearly half-way between Sebastopol and Kaffa. "Alouchta," says Mr. Danby Seymour,—

Is beautifully placed on the sloping side of a gentle elevation, near the sea-shore, and the cultivation of the vine has made here rapid progress. Its situation, in a wide and fertile valley, at nearly the centre of the southern coast, must always have rendered it an important place, although the only mention of it in ancient times is with reference to the castle built here by Justinian, the remains of which are to be seen on a little hill near the sea-shore. The ancient town of Alouchta was built in front of the fort on the right bank of the river Oulou Ouzéne, but the place is now deserted and covered with the wild vine and tamarisk. Some remains may still be discovered of houses and of several Greek churches placed on the most elevated positions. The churches are nearly as large as those of Kherson; and in the principal

one a semicircular apse shows that either a bishop or at least a priest of high rank presided over the clergy attached to it. Alouchta is the limit between the eastern and the western coast, which are great rivals for public favour. There can, however, be no doubt that in remarkable scenery and romantic beauty the western coast has greatly the advantage. The igneous jets of ophitic granite do not come further east than Alouchta; and while the granite domes of Kastele, Aloudagh, and Liméne form promontories and bays, and sublime variations of scenery, the eastern coast is a monotonous repetition of narrow ravines, covered with meagre vegetation, of the witch-elm (the commonest tree in the Crimea), the turpentine-tree, and the Oriental juniper, some specimens of which measure as much as a foot and a half in diameter.

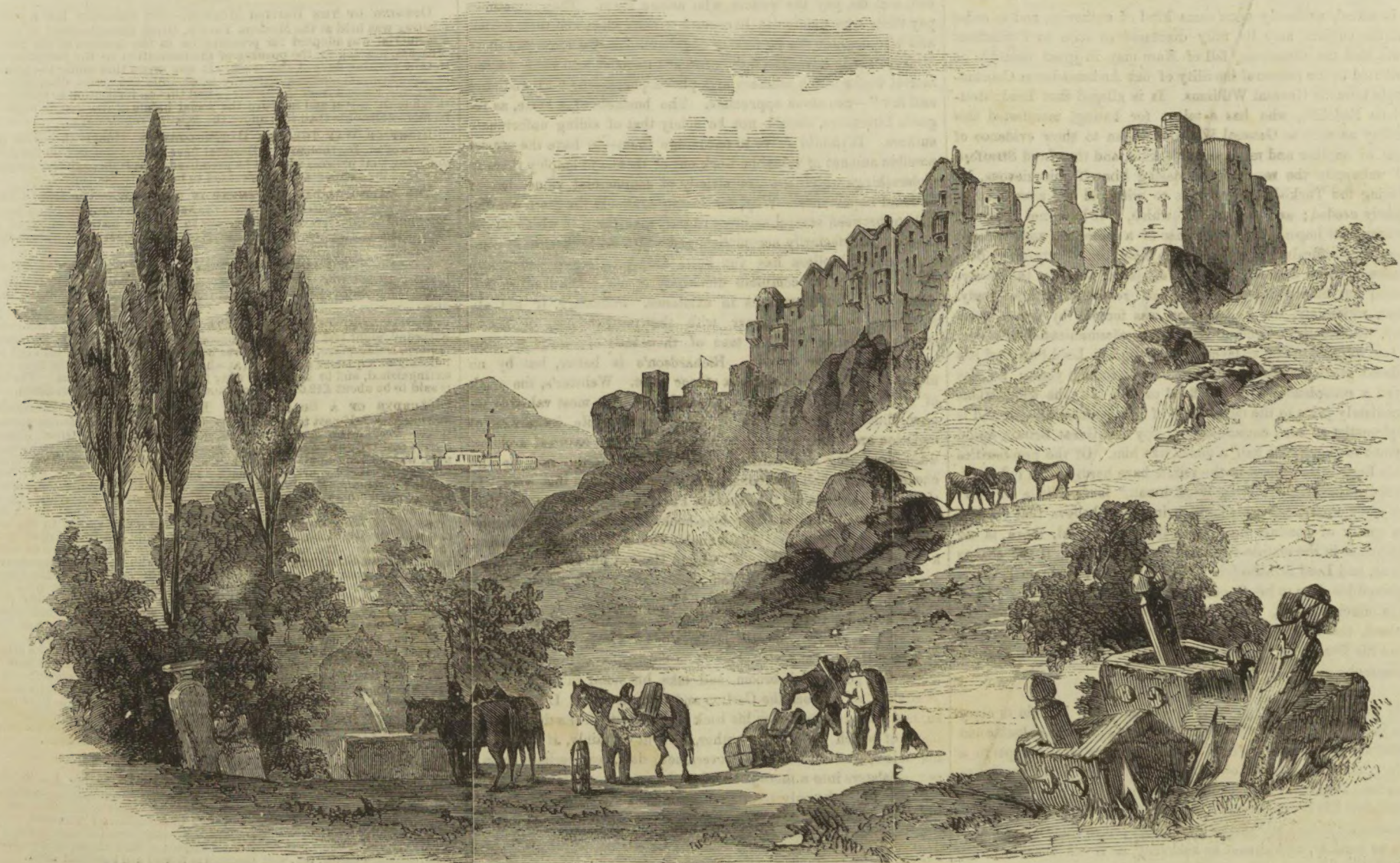
The macadamised road does not extend along the coast further than Alouchta, and here turns off northward to Simpheropol, a distance of about forty miles. It mounts for the first twelve miles through the rich valley of Alouchta, till an obelisk marks the highest point, whence it descends through the cheerful little valley of the Angar, which runs into the Salghir. Here the Tchatur-Dagh, the highest mountain in the Crimea, rises immediately on the

left; and the valley is an enormous rent in the red pudding-stone of which the mountain itself is composed. A little further on, a shady spot, called Tavsham Bazar (the Hare-market), serves as a resting-place for carriages coming from Simpheropol, before they encounter the hilly part of the journey to the coast and from Tavsham Bazar to Simpheropol the road is good and even.

TCHOUFOUT-KALEH.

This is a small town in the neighbourhood of Bagtcheserai, which has been inhabited for centuries by a colony of Jews. It is perched on an isolated rock, with houses overlooking the precipice. A road cut in the rock, and joining the one which leads to the southern coast, is the only communication to this singular little place, which is surrounded by a strong wall, entered by gates, which are closed every evening:—

Mr. Danby Seymour, in his recent "Travels in the Crimea," gives the following description of Tchoufout-Kaleh:—



TCHOUFOUT-KALEH.—FROM A SKETCH BY WILLIBALD RICHTER.



Tchoufou-Kaleh means in Turkish, "the fortress of the Jews," and this name is not found applied to it till two hundred years ago. The ancient name was Kirok, which was the capital of the Khans before they removed to Bagtcheera. From the earliest times this spot must have been a residence of men, for there is a crypt town built at the entrance of the gorge, in the strata of the chalk, with the isolated hill of Tchoufou-Kaleh behind it, which served as a place of refuge, fortified by nature. All the other crypt towns in the Crimea, as those of Inkerman, Mangoup, Katchikaléw, and Tepekerman, are built in similar localities, and date from the time of the Touro-Scythians, many centuries before Christ.

This subterranean town is cut under the fortress in the sides of the little valley. There are in one place alone as many as fifty of these grottoes, and a path with steps is cut in the rocks leading from them up to the fortress. On the opposite side one of them is converted into the Monastery of the Assumption, and inhabited by the monks.

All the higher part of the valley, beyond a magnificent group of oaks, has been used for ages as a burying-ground by the Jews, and is called the Valley of Jehoshaphat. The tombs, great numbers of which are cut in the white chalk, are ranged under fine trees, and along the sides of the paths. Some of the monuments go as far back as the middle of the thirteenth century, and the most ancient are also the simplest, and resemble long stone coffins.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 20.—Septuagesima Sunday.  
MONDAY, 21.—St. Agnes. New South Wales colonised, 1788.  
TUESDAY, 22.—St. Vincent. Lord Byron born, 1788.  
WEDNESDAY, 23.—William Pitt died, 1806. Duke of Kent died, 1820.  
THURSDAY, 24.—Frederick the Great born, 1712.  
FRIDAY, 25.—Robert Burns born, 1759. Prince of Wales christened, 1842.  
SATURDAY, 26.—Brazil discovered, 1496. Dr. Jenner died, 1823.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,  
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 26, 1856.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
4 40	4 35	4 30	4 25	4 20	4 15	4 10

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Next week we shall engrave LARGE ILLUSTRATIONS of the PRESENTATION of MEDALS to the FRENCH CRIMEAN TROOPS, by H.R.H. the DUKE of CAMBRIDGE, at Paris. Also of the GRAND REVIEW by the EMPEROR of the FRENCH, &c., &c.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1856.

It is stated, evidently upon some kind of authority, and in order that the subject may be fully discussed as soon as Parliament meets, that the disastrous fall of Kars may in great measure be attributed to the personal hostility of our Ambassador at Constantinople towards General Williams. It is alleged that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who has a talent for hating, manifested this hostility as soon as General Williams began to show evidence of talent of another and more valuable kind, and that Lord Stratford had unhappily the means of rendering himself mischievous, by inducing the Turkish Government to withhold the assistance so urgently needed; and the want of which, if it have not disgraced our arms, has imperilled the fortunes of a campaign, and rendered peace more difficult to conquer and to maintain. Sixty-three despatches to Lord Stratford were, it is stated, sent by the sorely-pressed but heroic General. They all remained without reply. When, ultimately, the Ambassador was forced, by orders from home, to attend to General Williams's communications, it was too late to prevent the melancholy catastrophe. Lord Stratford has rendered great services to his country in former years; he has played a conspicuous and beneficial part in all the transactions immediately prior to the declaration of war against Russia; and is a diplomatist of such consummate ability that Great Britain would be much the better for half a dozen like him. Of the peculiarities of his Lordship's character the public have hardly to be informed, especially since the "Roving Englishman" let in a little coloured light upon them; but we should reluctantly believe that he had been guilty of conduct for which, if it be proved, there is no punishment in the statute-book too severe. In fact, if the charge be true, and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, from private malice, has neglected his duty to his Queen's ally, he is a traitor. There is no use in mincing words. We sincerely hope that, for the honour of England, the veteran Ambassador may be able to clear himself before his Peers; for those who make the attack cannot stop short of impeachment.

It is the present privilege of this great nation to be able to carry on a just and necessary war without enduring its more palpable and immediate calamities. So little is the pressure felt, except in a slightly-increased amount of taxation, that no work of peace has fallen into abeyance; no good work of domestic charity previously commenced has been left undone; and legal, political, social, and educational reforms are severally wrought out to their conclusions, quite as steadily, and almost as zealously, as if we were at peace

with the whole world. Thus, although the nation is at war, it has time for the consideration of such minor matters as the bestowal of a pension on an unfortunate author, and to debate the whole policy as well as the whole administration of a thing so comparatively unimportant as the Pension List. If it be true, as Dr. Johnson said, "that the chief glory of every people arises from its authors," and if it be true, as others have asserted, that both in war and in peace a great nation is bound in justice to itself to honour its chief authors if they be prosperous, and to succour them if they fall into unforeseen and undeserved calamity, what shall be said of the British Government, that neither honours British authors nor rewards them? which grants them a niggardly allowance, not as a right, but as an eleemosynary contribution to save them from the workhouse? and which systematically robs them of by far the greater portion of the sum which a mean-minded Parliament sets annually apart for them? Mr. Haydn, a working man of letters, author of a very useful compilation, was stricken by paralysis while employed on a casual job in the service of the Foreign-office. A pension of £25 was shortly after settled upon him; less than half the annuity which a country gentleman of moderate means would confer upon a coachman or a footman who had honestly served him in the days of health and strength; less by a good deal than a crossing-sweeper could scrape up in any ordinary thoroughfare of the metropolis; less by half than the wages of an omnibus conductor; and within a few pounds of as much as the careful State pays for the support and education of a criminal qualifying himself at the public expense to obtain a ticket of leave! To award such a pittance is an insult to Literature—a disgrace to the national character that will submit to it. The claims of Literature should be urged upon the nation—not for the sake of Literature, but for the sake of the nation itself, that must suffer in its interests, no less than in its character, if its "chiefest glory" be wilfully or ignorantly degraded. We attach no blame to Lord Palmerston for the mean £25 bestowed upon Mr. Haydn; for his Lordship, by a private act, did much to relieve himself from the imputation which might in other circumstances have been thrown against his Government; but what the public ought to inquire is why and how the Minister has no larger sum at his disposal? Any Minister claiming to worthily represent his country should make it a point to demand of Parliament fuller powers in such matters, so as to place the bestowal of literary pensions on Ministerial responsibility, without reference to their amount. If the Pension List were carefully examined, it would be found that more than one-half of the annual £1200 supposed to be granted to Literature and Science is bestowed upon individuals who are totally unconnected with either. Why, for instance, should Lady Truro, the widow of an ex-Lord Chancellor, have been provided with two several pensions of £500 per annum out of such a fund? What claims had she upon it twice, or even once? What claims upon it had her Majesty's dancing-master? or her singing-master? If these persons—estimable persons, no doubt—are to be pensioned, let Parliament pension them, and the nation will not begrudge the money; but to pension them out of a fund voted for the encouragement of Science and Literature is to rob Science and Literature, to plunder the poor, and insult two noble professions.

It has continually been urged that Literature and Science stand in no need of encouragement from the State; that the public is their best encourager and patron; and that, if they cannot prosper by such encouragement as the public can afford them, they ought to fall. We should be sorry to believe that this ignoble sentiment is that of a majority of the gentlemen of the House of Commons, or of the men who wield the authority of the State in the executive functions of the Government. Great genius is continually in advance of its age. The people can, and do, pay the writers who amuse them. They sometimes pay those who pander in literature to their vices and their follies, and who degrade the profession of letters. They seldom pay those who see far in advance of the present time, and who write the immortal works which scholars and philosophers—the "fit audience and few"—can alone appreciate. The business of a State, as regards Literature, should not be solely that of aiding unfortunate authors. It should strive to encourage them—to have the utmost possible amount of valuable work out of them—to employ them in undertakings which are not strictly of commercial value, but of national importance. Why, for instance, should the State not distribute between several eminent literary men the task which no one man can satisfactorily accomplish, and which no bookseller or company of booksellers has yet been found to set on foot—the task of making a complete dictionary of our noble English language? No such work is in existence. Johnson's, if not obsolete, is woefully in arrear with the present state of knowledge, and is deficient in tens of thousands of words in common use in these islands. Richardson's is better, but by no means up to the requirements of our time. Webster's, the work of an American, is, next to Richardson's, the most valuable we have, but is full of errors of commission, while its errors of omission are to be counted by thousands. The national archives want arranging and editing, before the damp, the rats, or the cheesemonger shall number them among the things that were. Is there no literature for the English Parliament to pay for, but that of ponderous and unreadable blue-books, which annually consume an amount of money that would enable the Government to pension a thousand men of genius, if—which Heaven forefend!—a thousand men of genius should find themselves in the unhappy predicament of needing its assistance.

We hope, for the honour of Literature, that the next author who is offered a pension of £25 a year will be stronger in limb than poor Mr. Haydn, and that he will be able to expend one-and-sixpence on a good birch-broom, and take his stand with it opposite Whitehall, or between the Carlton and Reform Clubs. If he will do so, and place on his hat or his back a placard with the titles of the books of which he was the author, he will certainly, if money be his object, make thrice the Government dole, and perhaps shame our legislators into a more just and generous way of thinking. If the public is to be the only patron of Literature, Literature in its evil days will fare better by appealing to the public charity in the manner we have indicated, than by appealing to the harsh, cold charity of an aristocratic and callous Government.

THE COURT.

The hospitalities of the Court have been continued during the past week. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary arrived at the Castle on Tuesday, and remained until Friday. On the same day the Maharajah Duleep Singh arrived on a visit. Among the guests honoured with invitations have been:—His Excellency the Austrian Minister and the Countess Colloredo, his Excellency the Belgian Minister, the Marquis of Abercorn and Lady Louisa Hamilton, the Marchioness of Hastings and Capt. Yelverton, R.N., the Earl and Countess Granville, Lord Ashburton, the Right Hon. the Speaker and Mrs. Shaw Lefevre, Sir Charles and Lady Mary Wood, Sir Benjamin Hall, the Right Hon. Spencer Walpole and Mrs. Walpole, Rear-Admiral W. A. B. Hamilton; Lieut.-Colonel Chapman, R.E., lately serving in the Crimea; and Colonel M'Murdo, lately commanding the Land Transport Corps.

The Duchess of Kent has dined almost daily at the Castle. On Saturday last Prince Albert, accompanied by the Count of Flanders, came to London. The Prince drove to Buckingham Palace, and returned to the Castle early in the afternoon. The Count of Flanders visited the Belgian Minister, in Portland-place, and also her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House. His Royal Highness afterwards returned to the Castle.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated.

On Monday Prince Albert, accompanied by the Count of Flanders, went out shooting.

On Tuesday Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, skated on the ice in the Home Park.

On Wednesday Prince Albert, accompanied by the Count of Flanders and the Maharajah Duleep Singh, went out shooting in the Royal preserves.

On Thursday the third dramatic representation of the present season took place in St. George's Hall.

Lady Churchill has succeeded the Marchioness of Ely as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty; and Lord Byron and the Hon. M. Sackville West have succeeded Lord De Tabley and Colonel the Hon. N. Hood as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent gave her annual ball to her Majesty and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and other members of the Royal family, at Frogmore, last evening (Friday).

The Earl Granville, Lord President of the Privy Council, will give a Parliamentary dinner to a party of Peers on the 30th instant, at his residence in Bruton-street.

The Earl of Derby has issued cards for a grand banquet to a large party of his political friends on the 30th instant.

The Viscount Somerton is about to form a matrimonial alliance with the Hon. Caroline Barrington, daughter of Viscount and Viscountess Barrington.

The marriage of Lady Jane Feilding with Captain Levett took place at Monk's Kirby Church on Thursday se'night. After the ceremony a breakfast was given at Newnham Paddox, the seat of the Earl of Denbigh, the bride's father.

The marriage of Sir Robert Peel, Bart., with the Lady Emily Hay, took place at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, on Thursday, in the presence of a large party of the friends of both families. The wedding breakfast took place in the Waterloo Gallery at Apsley House.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

ELECTION OF MASTER OF CLARE HALL.—On Monday last the Rev. Edward Atkinson, B.D., was elected to the vacant Mastership of Clare Hall, Cambridge, by the vote of eighteen out of the nineteen Fellows of which the society consists. This is the first time within the memory of man on which all the Fellows have met together—the late Master, Dr. Webb, having been unanimously elected by the thirteen Fellows who were present. The want of unanimity on the present occasion was in consequence of one of the Fellows voting for himself.

ARCHDEACON DENISON'S CASE.—The argument upon the rule nisi granted in Archdeacon Denison's case in the Court of Queen's Bench is expected shortly to be heard, when the decision of the Court will be given, whether the rule shall be made absolute. If the decision is in the affirmative, it is expected that the Archbishop will proceed in due course to hear the cause in a Court constituted for the purpose, according to the provisions of the Church Discipline Act.

APPOINTMENTS.—Rectories: The Hon. and Rev. A. N. H. Curzon to Kedleston, Derbyshire; Rev. Charles Edward Oakley to Wickwar, in the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol. Vicarages: The Rev. F. T. Woodman to Broadwell, with the Kelmscott, Oxfordshire; Rev. W. Standen to Tarrant Monkton, near Blandford, Dorset. Incumbencies: The Rev. J. C. Bates to King's Sterndale, near Bakewell, Derbyshire; Rev. W. L. Feilden to Knowsley, Lancashire; Rev. A. Buckridge to St. James's District Church, St. Sidwell's, Exeter; Rev. E. Dumbleton to Vobster, near Wells, Somerset; Rev. S. Kingsford to Chellington, Somerset; Rev. W. Walton to Aslahton, near Long Stratton. Rev. T. A. Walker, M.A., to be Domestic Chaplain to the Right Hon. Lord De Tabley.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

OPENING OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—On Saturday last a public meeting was held at the Museum Tavern, Great Russell-street, at which a memorial was adopted for presentation to the trustees of the British Museum, praying for the opening of the institution to the public during the six working days of the week. It was urged that under the present arrangements thousands annually went from the gates disappointed, especially visitors from the country; and that an institution so calculated to refine the tastes and improve the social habits of the people ought to be more accessible than it is under the existing regulations.

RIGHT OF WAY THROUGH BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—The governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital have affixed placards on the gates notifying that persons will not be permitted to pass through the hospital now that the cattle-market has ceased to be held in Smithfield.

THE HALF-HOLIDAY MOVEMENT IN THE LAW.—The Lord Chancellor has been solicited to sanction the half-holiday movement on Saturday, and the interests of 10,000 persons in the law have been urged on his Lordship, who has promised to give the subject his anxious consideration.

EXTENSION OF FARRINGTON-STREET.—It has been decided by the Commissioners that the thoroughfare leading from Holborn-bridge to the Sessions-house, Clerkenwell, shall be opened for public traffic next July.

DESTRUCTION OF A PIANOFORTE MANUFACTORY BY FIRE.—On Saturday night last Messrs. Hopkinson's extensive patent piano manufactory, Diana-place, New-road, was consumed by fire. The men left the building at a quarter past seven, at which time the whole of the fires were extinguished, and in four hours after the place was in flames. The loss is said to be about £12,000; the amount covered by insurance, £5500.

MURDER OF A SOLICITOR IN BEDFORD-ROW.—On Wednesday morning, at half-past ten o'clock, Mr. George Waugh, the senior partner in the well-known firm of Waugh and Mitchell, of 5, Great James-street, Bedford-row, who had come into town as usual to transact his business, was walking to his office, when a man named Westron suddenly ran out of Hand-court, and made towards him, as if he had been waiting for him. Mr. Waugh, who appeared to recognise the person, endeavoured to avoid him; but when Westron got close up to him he presented a pistol at him, and deliberately shot him in the breast. The unfortunate gentleman gave a sudden spring in the air, and with an ejaculation, "O God! take him—hold him!" fell dead upon the pavement. The murder was witnessed by several persons close by, who immediately ran up; and Westron, who made no resistance, was at once taken into custody by Hutchins, the beadle of Bedford-row. On his way to the police court he said that if it had not been for Waugh he should have had £800, but that he had thrown his (the prisoner's) affairs into Chancery, and he could not get half that amount. He afterwards said, "Mr. Waugh has ruined me, and has compelled me to eat bread and cheese for ten days at a time." The prisoner was brought before Mr. Tyrwhitt, at Clerkenwell, in the afternoon, when the above facts were stated. When asked what he had to say to the charge, he said, very coolly, "Nothing at present." Mr. Tyrwhitt remanded him till Wednesday next. From the inquiries made by the police it appears that the prisoner and Mr. Waugh were connected in some law proceedings. The prisoner had frequently threatened the deceased, and it had been thought necessary on a previous occasion that he should be bound over to keep the peace; which was done.

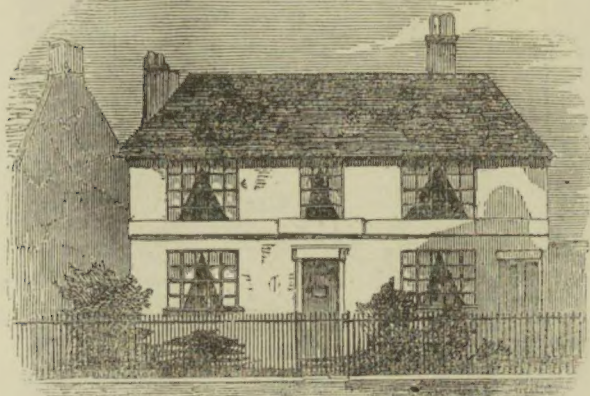
TESTIMONIAL.—The President of the United States has lately presented to Captain Thomas Bosdet a handsome silver speaking-trumpet, according to the inscription, "for his humane and gallant conduct in rescuing from shipwreck the master and crew of the barque *Algrim*, of Yarmouth, Massachusetts, 1855." The trumpet is characteristically ornamented with a ship's stern, the figure of a sailor, dolphins and a harpoon, a Turk's head, the American eagle, stars and stripes, &c., well executed in frosted and burnished silver.



## THE RUGELEY TRAGEDIES.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

No account of the Rugeley tragedies would be complete or quite comprehensible without some slight description of the town of Rugeley itself. If cities have, as it has been said, their destinies, as men have, then, unquestionably, Rugeley was built to be the scene of a tragedy. There are many towns of the kind in Holland-like Staffordshire. Seated in the centre of the railway system, the county, in the beginning, made great arrangements to develop itself. Every village made a rapid rush to be a town, and stopped half-way; and, at present, Staffordshire has only about two towns, neither of even second-class importance, while she is almost totally destitute of that beauty of less energetic shires—a village. Birkenhead has been described as a premature Palmyra, and, in a lesser way, Staffordshire is crowded with Birkenheads; places of pretension incompletely fulfilled, too big for the business, considerably "to let." Rugeley is the worst of these; for it seems to have fallen back—from the staring red brick, perfectly modern, outworks that can get nothing to do—upon the old village street, which is built of a sad, sullen-looking dirty-brown stone, miserable without the once-adjointing fields, and most disheartening to the passenger from the utterly unprosperous look of the place. You enter Rugeley from the station by a road that winds between two churchyards—an old and a new one—and which seem to compete with one another in dismal suggestiveness. The people are neither country people nor townfolk, have neither rustic ease nor civic smartness, and the gloom of failure appears to pervade talk and "trade."



PALMER'S HOUSE, RUGELEY.

An inn in a town is always a representative place. In Rugeley the inns are as miserably inconvenient, insufficient, and uncomfortable, as posthouse inns in Poland. Like the other houses, they are drear in aspect; and the most drear, the principal inn, looks like an aged gaol; and the next most melancholy-looking building in Rugeley is that opposite the principal inn—and that building is the house of William Palmer the surgeon. A deserted inn, as the Talbot Arms is, was not a healthy sight for a surgeon without practice, and heavy in debt, as William Palmer was. "The Talbot Arms," a dilapidated sign, swings in front, and its creakings at night must have wearied William Palmer's wife when she lay dying. The motto of the Talbots—"Nihil humani alienum"—is emblazoned on the arms—a constant, beneficent suggestion to the eyes of Mr. Palmer, but of which he availed himself in the manner sinister.

An account of the Palmer family is next necessary. It is an extraordinary family history, even if we are to reject, in considering it, one-half of the stories of the now cynical people of Rugeley; and the more it is examined, with the circumstances arising out of it, and implicating parties unconnected with the family, the more will the general public be inclined to think unfavourably of the character of the whole community of whom these Palmers formed but a portion. For we have to observe that, arising out of this Palmer case, there are two extraordinary charges now preferred, not by gossip but by authorities—one against the postmaster of the place, for systematic letter-opening; and another against the coroner in command of the inquiry, for undue partiality to, and improper correspondence with, Palmer. It is furthermore to be remarked that the case, in itself so extraordinary, is marvellous for the extent to which the evidence damages the characters of the witnesses themselves.

The founder of the Palmer family was a sawyer, commencing life as a working man. He was a coarse, unscrupulous, insolent, pushing fellow, who had no friends, and who yet made a fortune. He made the money by going into the timber trade and buying up, from the neighbouring nobility and gentry, "those excrescences of nature grown by Providence to pay the debts of gentlemen"—trees. Stories are rife of his sharp practices with careless sellers and dishonest stewards and agents. It is enough to know that when he died he left (to his widow, chiefly, for her life, with portions to each of the sons) a considerable fortune—about £100,000, it is said—and an excessively bad fame. But he died suddenly, and it was said (it is not now said) of apoplexy. The sons were divided, as the sons of the middle class are when there is money enough to start all, into the different professions. One was sent into the church, another to the law, another to trade, another to medicine. It so happened that not one of the sons has, in his own life, purified the name of Palmer, to a proper extent, in the nostrils of Rugeley and its neighbourhood; while, on the other hand, it is to be feared that they had not the advantage of a good mother—some of Mrs. Palmer's letters to a man of the name of Duffy, and left by him in a portmanteau at a low public-house, having been unfairly disclosed to the town, and having been considered to justify the accumulated comments of fifteen years of scandal. The marriages of some of the sons were so unlucky as to increase the popular conviction that the family was not amiable. Neglect, drunkenness, and separations, seem to have been the rule. William Palmer, the surgeon, married Miss Brooks. She was the natural daughter of a Colonel Brooks. Colonel Brooks committed suicide not long after the marriage. The mother of Miss Brooks died, soon after the marriage, suddenly. Mrs. William Palmer had six confinements; but only one child lived. Walter Palmer is spoken of as "the best of the brothers;" and he was a bankrupt in trade, and so confirmed a drunkard that his wife, partial to him, and willing to be his nurse, found it impossible to endure the horror and disgust of living with him. In most cases a newly-married Mrs. Palmer (and there are five or six brothers) found, on opening her house for visitors in her new home at Rugeley, that she was not the fashion. William Palmer was popular with the poor and with the public generally; for he had a pleasant manner, was never secretive of sporting news of value, and always glad to put money in the way of poor men eager for the excitement sans the risk of betting. He thus obtained considerable influence in the town and in the sporting circles of the midland and northern counties. But he was never respected. Although young (about thirty-four), he has lived apparently an indefatigably mischievous life, and his character was tolerably well understood as a man who "would not stick at a trifle." His companions were of a low class, and he only differed from them in his temperate habits and equitable tact of manner. His wife was greatly beloved as a gentle, amiable, extremely feminine woman; and his notorious unfaithfulness to her, his prolonged absences from her, and the extreme solitude in which she was left in that hideous house in that hideous town, induced dislike of him, originating in pity for her. Now that all the dreadful story is divulged, the daring character of the man is well understood. His attempt to bribe the postboy to smash the jars containing the viscera of Cooke, as these jars were being carried to the station for transmission to London—his taking from the telegraph-office the copy of the message—his hint to the weak postmaster to open and read a letter—his reckless misrepresentation to the

insurance-offices of the social position of Bates, his stable-help—his attempt to seduce his maid-servant the very night of his wife's death—all these facts are sufficiently suggestive. But stories of that character have been rife for years about him. The day his wife died it was whispered by two or three persons in Rugeley that she had not been properly treated by him. We may infer from Cooke's dying hints that sporting men had "queer" ideas about the "Doctor;" and when the insurance-offices began to make inquiries so long ago as September—that is, long before Cooke's death—they, of course, were influenced by the common talk about Palmer. If it should be proved in the end that he is one of the greatest of villains, it will also be ascertained that he was one of the clumsiest. There is none of the heroic finesse of the historical poisoners about him. His utmost art was to keep out of the way of vulgar arsenic and palpable prussic acid. If he selected refined agents of murder, his process was of the coarsest kind. That he attempted and did so much is accepted as proof of his ability. Of his infamous audacity there can be no question; but what the case proves is the stupidity and timidity of those around him in not sooner dragging him to justice. The utmost that he succeeded in, as a matter of management in his career, was in withholding from the mass of the people in Rugeley and Stafford any ground for believing in "motive" for crime. No one knew up to the last moment that he was heavily in debt. When his wife died people said that he must lose money by it, as the annuity left her by her father died with her. He had a large stud of horses, and had among his own neighbours the reputation of being a successful betting-man, while it was seen and known that he was not extravagant. It is now perceived that he was from the first, and continuously, in difficulties. In physique he presented none of the points of a man of finesse, either for a "book" or for a "poison." He was clumsily built, with a coarse red face. This figure and complexion, with the accompaniments in both cases of thin fair hair and sandy whiskers, have suggested the statement that "Palmer is the image of Manning." In strong, selfish, sensual natures there is probably a general resemblance. But Palmer looks, we are assured, more "gentlemanly" than Manning did.

The first time that the finger began to be pointed at the house of Wm. Palmer was four or five years ago, when a man of the name of Bladen, a brewer's collector, and a defaulter in his accounts (which is significant in a friend of Palmer's), on a visit to Palmer, fell ill at Rugeley, was treated by Palmer, and died after a few days' sufferings. But nobody knew a motive, and no one spoke above a whisper.

The whisper was again heard on his wife's death, which took place in September, 1854; but here there were natural appearances, and there had been an elaborate attendance of medical men, though friends and neighbours were kept off. Mrs. Palmer had been to Liverpool (where several families intermarried with the Palmers and with her own family reside) in company with her sister-in-law, Miss Palmer (a young lady, it is only fair to add, against whom no one has a word to say). She went, lightly clothed, to a concert at the St. George's Hall at Liverpool. She caught cold. Her unhappy confinements, her secluded life, had impressed her neighbours with an idea that she was a very delicate woman. She had been accustomed to take, she said to Miss Palmer, a great deal of medicine, as it would appear, under the direction of her husband; and, while away from his care at Liverpool, she missed, she said, her doses. She returned ill to Rugeley. She became rapidly worse. Her symptoms were those of cholera. The local surgeons said so. Dr. Knight, a very able man, called in from Stafford, said so. She died, and they certified that she died a natural death. Her husband had been kind and attentive during her illness, and had shed tears at her death. Her annuity died with her. Few knew that her life had been assured for £13,000. Those who did know knew that the insurance-offices paid, and they ought to know their own business. Who could say a word?

Walter Palmer, the brother of William, the bankrupt corn-merchant, the loose fish, the bad husband, the confirmed drunkard, died twelve months after—viz., in September of last year. On this occasion the life had been assured largely, and the insurance-offices refused to pay, having made inquiries which suggested a case of conspiracy, if not of murder. But there was this time not much suspicion in Rugeley or Stafford, and the circumstances were such as so sufficiently to account naturally for death—and the evidence of Dr. Taylor, on Monday, all but proves that the death was natural—that if William Palmer's hands had been clean, and if it had not so happened that he himself held the policy and had paid the premium, though he could only allege a debt due to him of £400, he could no doubt have contested and won the case. Walter Palmer had not been sober for years. For the last eighteen months of his life he had drunk from a quart to two quarts of gin daily, or rather nightly, within eight of each twenty-four hours. He had so shattered his brain that he talked incoherently. He had so exhausted his system that he lived on an occasional meal of arrow-root. He was sick every morning. He had delirium tremens repeatedly. There is some evidence of William Palmer being with him the day and night he died, and of Walter telling the medical man appointed to attend him that William had given him—stating that they were from the regular medical attendant—two pills, which he (Walter) described as "twisters." This may have been the common delusion of the drunkard. If a fact, it may only mean that William had used the medical man's name to force his brother to take pills calculated to do him good, and which proved very strong to a dying man. William used all the proper remedies when Walter was taken in his final convulsions. No trace of poison is found in the system. William may have purchased prussic acid, as it is alleged, at about that time, but the fact would not outweigh the other facts. It is, at any rate, certain that in Rugeley Walter's was regarded as a natural death. How such a drunkard had lived so long was the only wonder. Walter was buried in the same grave, in Rugeley churchyard, with Mrs. William Palmer, Palmer, sen., Mrs. Brooks, William's five children, and Bladen; and no more was said in Staffordshire.

What had been said in London, however, ought to have urged William Palmer to caution. Yet it is at this time that he began his extraordinary attempts to insure the life of Bates, a decayed farmer turned groom, who signed a proposal paper, in which he was described as "a gentleman," who understood (and that was all) that he was to get £500 for his share. It is at this time that his turf gambling became enormous, and that he was raising in London money on bills at the rate of 60 per cent for discount. A not capacious mind had evidently gone mad with monetary embarrassments. All caution even of manner now went. One evening in October last, when the insurance-offices had sent down detectives to make inquiries, he was at the Junction Hotel at Stafford. He noticed the "odd lodgers" there; viz., the detectives. As usual at every hotel in the district, the groom or boots of the house was the fast ally of Dr. Palmer. He inquired of Boots about the detectives, and asked had they pumped Boots himself. He was restless and uneasy: he "stood" brandy-and-water for Boots, and, as Boots happened to be sick directly afterwards, Boots now insists that he was a-poisoned. If one were now to believe all the stories of gentlemen who had drunk their liquor in Palmer's company of late years it would be demonstrated that he was hankering after murder day and night. At the inquest on Cooke, Mr. Fisher, wine-merchant and sporting-man, said, on one night of the Shrewsbury races he went into Cooke's sitting-room at the Raven Hotel, and found Cooke and Palmer drinking together. Cooke then complained that his drink "burnt him," and was sick. Mr. G. Herring, at the same inquest, deposed that at the Shrewsbury races he and others had been attacked with diarrhoea and pains in the stomach—so deposing the circumstance as to insinuate that Palmer was poisoning the stores of every booth on the course. All this of course partakes of exaggeration.

Yet, at the assizes in March, the counsel for the prisoner will doubtless, as a desperate resource, suggest the insanity of Palmer. It may be contended that in the proceedings in connection with Cooke there was the recklessness of the maniac even more apparent than the motive of the criminal. Palmer, known not to have any large practice, and rather supposed not to stick at trifles, goes openly to a chemist's shop in his own town, Rugeley, and buys six grains of strychnine. This was on the 20th November, 1855. At that time it is known that his friend Mr. Cooke is lying ill at the Talbot Arms, opposite Palmer's

house. All the sporting world who had been at Shrewsbury races knew that Cooke had won largely, and, among other persons, of Palmer. Palmer had induced Cooke, a young man, but apparently a sagacious man, for he suspected Palmer, and talked freely his suspicions, to go over to Rugeley—a singular freak at any time, but especially in a time of illness. Palmer sends broths across to Cooke which make Cooke worse, and brings pills which kill Cooke. Cooke dies in the agony, "the body drawn like a bow," known to result from strychnine. The viscera being examined, Dr. Taylor gives his opinion that the cause of death was strychnine. Soon after death Palmer is detected by the chambermaid examining the pockets of the dead man's garments, and the betting-book and some cash are missed. Was there ever anything more clumsy in murder, short of brain-g the victim with a bludgeon? Suspicion is at once, at last, aroused. A post-mortem examination takes place. The Nemesian, Dr. Alfred Taylor, comes down. William Palmer, committed by his friend the coroner, found by a jury of his townsmen guilty of wilful murder, is an inmate of Stafford gaol. As if baffled in murder, he now attempts suicide, and after his customary uncouth fashion. He resolves to abstain from food. They inform him, after a few days' abstinence, that they will use the stomach-pump and make him live, that he may die the felon's death; and he now eats with all the calmness with which he killed.

The inquest being further adjourned to the 23rd, public interest must be suspended upon all the collateral points of this case which have been freely raised by rumour. Of this there can be no doubt: the feeling of the Rugeley jury is so strongly against Palmer, that not only is it probable they will return another verdict of wilful murder in connection with the death of Walter Palmer, but it is also very likely they will call upon the Secretary of State to grant further orders for an exhumation, with a view to chemical examination, of other bodies—Bladen's and the mother-in-law's. But excitement may be at once set at rest with respect to the stories at first so eagerly received, that Palmer made away with the man Duffy—whose sudden disappearance has been accounted for—and that he was in some way instrumental in the death of Lord George Bentinck; respecting whom the reproduction of the facts has satisfied both relatives and the public. Another common report must soon be brought to the test. It is stated that bills to a large amount, purporting to be accepted by Mrs. Palmer, the mother, are out, and that these are forgeries by Wm. Palmer.

It may be suggested that, in a case of this importance, the Home Office ought to take more precautions for ensuring not only a satisfactory but a speedy inquiry. More than a fortnight has now elapsed since the Coroner and a team of solicitors took the investigation in hand. Mr. Wakley would have got through the whole business in a couple of days. The protraction may be attributed to the circumstances that the Coroner is very slow and very *faineant*, taking the evidence tediously, and never venturing to interfere in the incessant squabbles of the solicitors; while these solicitors have neither the weight, the learning, nor the tact to conduct their business satisfactorily even to themselves. On the jury there appears to be no one man of keenness. The result is that a mass of evidence of utter unimportance is taken at tedious length; and that the public, and the jury, and the witnesses, and the solicitors have to wait while the Coroner, who writes slower than most schoolboys, diligently scrawls.

The inquiry into the conduct of the postmaster—involving likewise an investigation into some alleged equivocal proceedings of the Coroner—proceeds meanwhile. As regards Mr. Cheshire, the postmaster, the case is complete. He confesses his offence. A letter was "lying open before him," he pleads, and he was so curious to know what Dr. Taylor (who marked outside the envelope "cause of death") had to say respecting Cooke, that he could not forbear to read it; and he further admits that Palmer had spoken to him previously, and that subsequently he saw Palmer. Dr. Taylor's letter was not an opinion; it was a letter to the solicitor representing the executors of Cooke, asking for more information; but its negative character seems to have elated Palmer who thereupon, injudiciously for his friend, wrote to the Coroner—it is not yet known what. As regards the result in Palmer's case, this transaction is rather curious than important. But as regards the Post-office system the revelation is of the greatest consequence. What one postmaster not over-occupied in a gossiping little town may do, another postmaster similarly circumstanced may also do. The evidence in this particular matter is that an adhesive envelope can readily be opened by the practised hand, resealed, and forwarded, in an apparently honest condition of letter, to its destination. Does this go on generally through Great Britain? We fear the inference is inauspicious; and that we must recur to the age of sealing-wax, or demand a really adhesive envelope.

## RECENT DISCOVERIES AT NINEVEH.

We this week resume our Engravings of the latest Assyrian discoveries. They are all facsimiles of Mr. Boucher's drawings, made on the spot a year ago, and now deposited in the British Museum. The large illustration is quarter the size of the sculpture which is one of the three compartments forming the slab. For delicacy of workmanship and height of relief it is perhaps unrivalled by anything ever found in Assyria. The King, on horseback, has speared one lion through the mouth, and his lance-point issues from the back; whilst another lion has sprung upon the horse which he leads. Though the features of the King are correctly and finely cut, there is, as usual, no expression in his face to indicate the deadly encounter he is engaged in—the Assyrian sculptor represented the monarch battling with a desperate foe and quaffing wine in honour of his Queen with precisely the same quiet indifference. In all the slabs of this series, which was found in *situ* in Assur-bani-pal's palace at Kouyunjik (the mound opposite Mosul), the King wears an embroidered fillet on his head, instead of the pointed tiara with which he is elsewhere more commonly portrayed. By his dress, "with bracelets and necklace," he would seem like Astyages the Mede (see Xenophon), to "have affected an effeminate life;" but by his single-handed encounter, armed only with spear and dagger, with a group of lions, he, on the contrary, appears no unworthy successor of the mighty hunter, Nimrod. In most of the other slabs representing these combats the King is protected by spearmen whilst he is shooting down his game.

The caparisons of the horse are most elaborately sculptured, but need no description with the engraving before us; the conventional representation of the lower part of the bridle-bit passing on the outer side of the attacking lion is, however, worthy of notice.

The second illustration represents the King pouring a libation over the dead bodies of four lions. The slab, of which it forms one compartment, was found in the same palace, but not in *situ*; neither does it belong to the same series as the former. It is lower in relief, and is not so finely executed. The engraving is one-eighth the size of the sculpture. On a table before the King is a bowl containing, apparently, a lion's tongue and jawbone; and a stand, which we suppose, from other slabs on which it is elsewhere delineated, to be an altar. The King is surrounded by attendants. On one adjoining slab are the King's horses, from one of which he has evidently just dismounted to preside at the ceremony; on the other slab more lions are being carried to the feet of the Monarch. The two upper compartments of this slab represent hunting-scenes: in one subject the King is killing the lion with a mace, in others with dagger and spear. There is likewise a representation of the cage from which lions are being released. Each subject has an inscription over it recording the circumstance portrayed.

The two slabs, of which we have engraved compartments, are now on their way to England. The third Engraving represents a group of cattle, also found in Assur-bani-pal's palace. This slab, with others, was presented to the French nation, and is one of the ill-fated collection which foundered last summer in the river Tigris, and of which, unfortunately, no records remain but Mr. Boucher's drawings. It is noteworthy how much superior is the representation of animals to that of men in the Assyrian sculptures. There is, considering the stiffness and hardness generally seen, a surprising grace and skill displayed in this small group. There is vigour, also, at out the lions in the woodcut above them which has no counterpart in any of the human figures.

The only result of the last expedition which has yet reached England (besides Mr. Boucher's drawings, some 150 in number) is a magnificent series of ivory ornaments and other small articles found at Nimroud. They are now placed amongst our national collection, and will repay a visit.

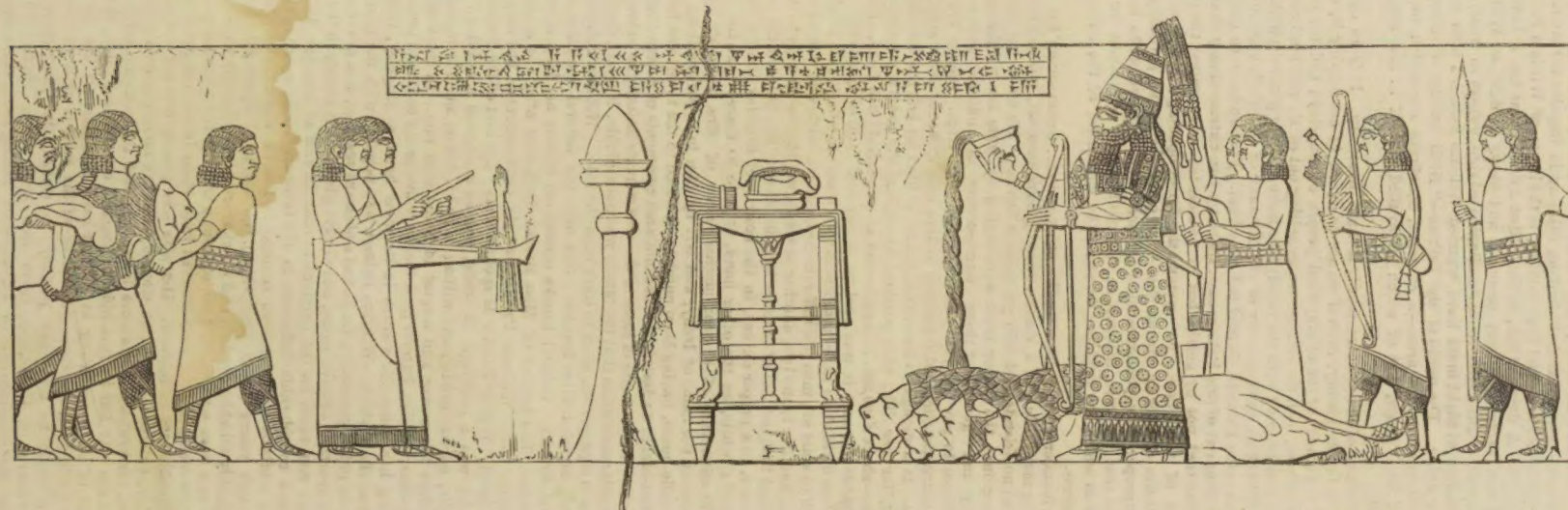
It is to be regretted that the British Museum does not complete its good work by publishing the whole of these works which have been at so great a cost collected, and which portray the latest and best works of Assyrian art.

We shall next week engrave the Libation Inscription, and append translation.

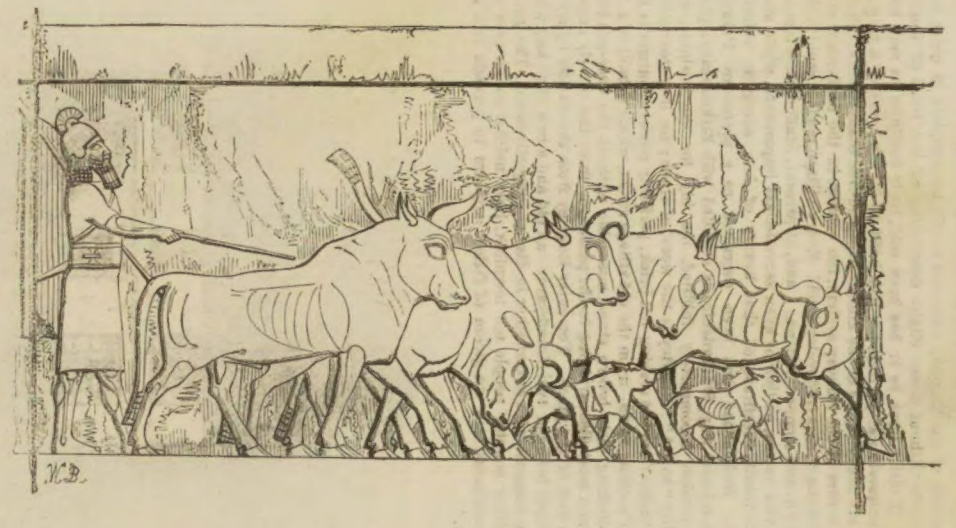




THE KING HUNTING LIONS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



A LIBATION.



DRIVING CATTLE.





THE FRENCH IMPERIAL GUARD.—CAVALRY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



DISTRIBUTION OF THE QUEEN'S MEDALS TO THE  
CRIMEAN FRENCH TROOPS.

On Tuesday last the tried troops who lately made their triumphal entry into Paris amidst the plaudits of the population assembled before the doors of the Palace of the French Sovereign, to receive from the hands of a Prince of the blood Royal of England a medal, which he was deputed to give them in the name of Queen Victoria.

At a quarter past twelve all the troops had assembled. They were composed of the company of Engineers, the Foot Chasseurs, the two regiments of Voltigeurs, the Zouaves, the Grenadiers, Gendarmes, and Artillery of the Imperial Guard, with the four regiments of the Line—20th, 39th, 50th, and 97th. The troops were massed by regiments, and drawn up part in the Court of the Tuilleries and part in the Place du Carrousel. An immense crowd of persons were assembled in the neighbourhood, wherever a view could be obtained. At one o'clock the Emperor mounted his horse, accompanied by Prince Napoleon, the Duke of Cambridge, Marshals Vaillant and Magnan, Generals Canrobert, Bosquet, Niel, and Espinasse, and his Aides-de-Camp and orderly officers. The Empress at the same time took her place on the balcony of the Pavillon d'Honneur, surrounded by her ladies of honour.

His Royal Highness commenced by presenting the medal to the general and superior officers, and afterwards to a certain number of the other officers, sub-officers, and privates of each regiment. In order to avoid the great delay that would have arisen in presenting so many thousand men at the same time, the medals were sent the evening before to the different barracks, so that the men wore the medals at the time of the filing off. The ceremony of distribution took place amidst the sound of military music, the bands of all the regiments playing the French and English national airs. We shall illustrate this interesting ceremony next week.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ALL ships preparing at Plymouth for service in the Baltic are ordered to be ready by the 1st of March.

A CONSIDERABLE number of mechanics, principally shipwrights and shipjoiners, at Sheerness yard have demanded and obtained their discharge, for the purpose of proceeding up the river Thames for employment at merchant yards. The inducement is the high rate of wages paid for job and task work by private builders compared with the dockyard rate of prices for similar work.

THE non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Sappers and Miners, Chatham, are under the instruction of Captain Francis Du Cane in the use and working of the electric telegraph.

LANCASTER'S elliptical-bore rifle has been issued to the 17th, 24th, 25th, and 26th companies of the Royal Sappers and Miners; the 24th company is first for service, supposed to be for the Baltic.

AN order has been issued from the War-office to the military authorities at Chatham that the corps of the Royal Artillery and Royal Sappers and Miners shall be furnished with their daily rations from the Commissariat Department on the home stations, the same as the cavalry and line, commencing on the 1st of February.

AN additional number of forty sergeants and forty privates of the Provisional Battalion, Chatham, are to be placed under Captain W. Nott, 83rd Regiment, for instruction in the Enfield rifle practice.

AN order has been received by the Coast Guard authorities here to send up to head-quarters all the men of the Coast Guard under fifty years of age. The men in this force, especially on the northern shores, are admirable and generally fearless boatmen, and well acquainted with navigating small craft on a dangerous coast; and there can be no doubt that their services will be most useful on board the fleet of gun-boats which are being prepared against the spring campaign in the Baltic. The place of the men withdrawn will be supplied by extra men engaged in the districts.—*Glasgow Daily Mail*.

THE mortar raft, which is constructed on four pontoons, has now been refitted in the dockyard at Woolwich, and on Wednesday morning her 13 inch mortar and bed were hoisted into her, so that she is now fully prepared for another series of experiments.

THE sailing transport *Bucephalus* arrived at Spithead on Wednesday from Balaklava. She is laden with spoils and trophies from Sebastopol. Amongst them are 75 guns and mortars of various calibre—most of them are in good condition. She has also a large quantity of gun-carriages and other artillery appointments. A valuable and interesting portion of her cargo consists of a number of Russian church bells—one of them weighs two tons.

IT is contemplated to raise the walls of the Artillery stables on the north side of Brompton Barracks, for the purpose of making additional rooms for the accommodation of the Royal Sappers and Miners. It is supposed that the alterations will cost £20,000.

THE *William*, schooner, of Goole, is embarking from Woolwich arsenal a cargo of mixed shot for Portsmouth; and is likewise shipping two 13-inch mortars and mortar beds, with two 8-inch guns, for the *Seahorse*.

THE NEW SHIPBUILDING SLIP which was contracted to be raised by Messrs. J. and C. Rigby, at the east end of Woolwich Dockyard, and which has been twelve months in the course of construction, is now completed. This slip has been built on a scale sufficiently spacious to obviate the difficulty hitherto experienced in Woolwich Dockyard—namely, of building ships of large burden. This new slip contains sufficient space for all the purposes of building men-of-war of the largest tonnage. Its dimensions are 280 feet length, with a proportionate breadth. As it is essential in structures of this description that the foundation and flooring of the shipway should be solidly secured, the foundation has been sunk to a considerable depth, a bed of concrete from ten to twelve feet in thickness forming the lower stratum, which rests on the chalk rock. This substance is covered by a body of brickwork. The floor of the building consists of large blocks of masonry, fifteen inches in thickness. The masonry and brickwork are set in cement. A portion of the river wall in connection with the above is likewise completed.

THE IRON FLOATING BATTERY which R. Napier and Sons have commenced to build at Glasgow, and are to complete by the middle of April, is to be about 200 feet long, with a breadth of forty-five feet, and a depth of sixteen feet. Stem and stern are to be alike, and the form of the hull is not one calculated for quick sailing. The bottom is flat, and without a keel, so as to float in as little water as possible. The bilges are full, and the topsides tumble in considerably. There are to be two decks; on the lower of which the armament will be placed, consisting of twenty guns of the largest calibre. The hull will be built of iron in the usual way, but between decks will be lined with teak-wood 6 inches thick, and the outside protected with iron plates about 4 inches thick, so as to render the sides shotproof, and secure the men at the guns from the effects of point-blank shot. The draught of water, when ready for sea, is expected to be about eight feet, but it will probably be more. The measurement tonnage will be about 2000; and the propelling power is a screw, actuated by non-condensing engines of 200 horse-power. Messrs. Napier are also making a second pair of engines of the same description for a battery at present building at Newcastle.

THE COUNCIL OF WAR.—The Council of War assembles daily at Paris, under the presidency of the Emperor; but the strictest secrecy is maintained respecting the deliberations. The *Debats* of Tuesday says that one of the principal questions under discussion is the unity of the command of the Allied armies. The Paris correspondent of the *Independence Belge* believes that the campaign will be continued in the Crimea, and that the expedition to the Baltic, to be almost exclusively English, will be without an army for disembarkation. The same writer mentions a report that the new French loan "will be subscribed, if not entirely in England, at least with a solidarity of the resources of the two nations, and guaranteed by the two Governments."

AMERICA AND THE SOUND DUES.—The *New Prussian Gazette* affirms that the Government of the United States has offered to pay Denmark 40,000 dollars as an indemnity for the expenses incurred by the latter country for the benefit of navigation; and, in addition, to contribute by an annual subsidy to the expense of the lighthouses of the Sound.

A MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.—In Sweden females never by any chance enter a coffee-house to take refreshment; though, singular to relate, in nearly all such places females are employed to wait. Great consequently was the astonishment felt by the frequenters of the coffee-house of the Bazaar of the Port-Nord, in this city, to see, in the evening of the 28th December, a young lady, dressed with extreme elegance, and whose bearing showed that she belonged to the higher classes of society, enter unaccompanied, and, quietly taking a seat at a table, call for a cup of coffee. Many of the persons present were so struck at the extraordinary visit that they could not refrain from rising from their seats to gaze at the lady; but she took up a newspaper and began to read with apparent attention. After a while, when the curiosity had somewhat subsided, she rose hastily, and advancing towards another table, as if to take a newspaper, pulled a pistol from her muff and prepared to discharge it; but at that moment an officer who happened to be near seized her by the arm. The pistol, a double-barrelled one, went off, and the balls striking a chandelier broke it, and then lodged in the ceiling. The lady was immediately arrested, taken before a magistrate, and, after being interrogated, was placed in secret confinement. She is said to be the widow of a superior officer in the army; but what she meant to do with the pistol is a profound mystery. The affair has created intense sensation here.—*Stockholm Paper*.

## TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &amp;c.

THE Civil Service Examination conducted at the Broad Sanctuary is proving too hard a matter for many of the candidates. Not a few break down in vulgar and decimal fractions; more in English history; and many—and those, it is said, the best dressed—in English spelling. Young men have come from John o' Groat's and the Land's End who have had to return to John o' Groat's and the Land's End, inasmuch as they were unable to obtain the certificate of qualification for even temporary admission into the public service. This says little for the progress of education among the upper and middle classes. We believe that a few nominations to ragged schools would be found to give some excellent servants to the public. In the mean time we have just heard of an ingenious device that has been adopted, and has, it is said, in one case proved successful—that of *personation*. A bold young man, wisely doubtful about himself, appeared by proxy, though apparently in his proper person, passed a first class examination, and has since been found anything but up to the certificate he received. The Civil Service Commissioners are now adopting certain securities to prevent future Perkin Warbucks and Pretenders from imposing on the public. The Commissioners, we may observe, seem to have been anything but up to the duties required of them. The letters they have issued abound in ill-expressed thoughts, delivered too frequently in ill-spelt English.

Ladies and old men (in the shape of old women) who delight in old china—and it is a taste which we occasionally cultivate ourselves—will be delighted with two auctions announced for the ensuing spring by Messrs. Christie and Manson. The lady who is mistress of herself when china falls (under the hammer of the auctioneer at a low figure and to her bidding) is much to be envied. This by way of parenthesis. The two sales will be those of the living Mr. Fortune and the late Colonel Sibthorp. Mr. Fortune during his tea mission into China was curious, when not otherwise employed, about cups and saucers, and old enamel-work, and fine old crackle (what a charming sound is this for china-collectors!), Japan lacquer-work, and other things which Lord Macartney had no taste for. The result has been a really curious and unknown collection, enough to rouse Mr. Bernal and Colonel Sibthorp from their graves as bidders. Mr. Fortune's sale takes place next month. Another Bank dividend-day will be suffered to pass before Colonel Sibthorp's collection is scattered into other closets of collectors—those closets into which Charles Lamb (when in a new-to-him old house) delighted to look before visiting the library. Our old friend the Colonel was so passionate an admirer of old pottery and porcelain, that we have seen him in an absolute female rage at missing a lot (Pallissy or Raphael ware) for which he had hurried from the House, or interrupted (on important business) a London deputation of his Lincoln constituents. The Colonel (he was a bit of an old woman) really did understand something about Dresden and old Chelsea—bade boldly—and secured some very choice specimens of the arts he loved.

That admirable imitation or parody in *Punch* of Mr. Longfellow's new poem called "Hiawatha," was written by Mr. Shirley Brooks. We believe we are divulging no secret when we state this. It is about the best thing of its kind since the "Rejected Addresses." In well-informed circles the able and amusing account in Mr. Macaulay's manner of the publication of the third and fourth volumes of his *History* is attributed to the same pen. It appeared in the *Press*.

The jewel presented by her Majesty to Miss Nightingale is said to have been suggested by the Darnley jewel which her Majesty bought at the Strawberry-hill sale, and by those enamelled jewels which her great predecessor on the English throne (Queen Elizabeth) gave to Drake, Raleigh and other illustrious Englishmen of her reign. The design, from the description, seems very ingenious. The good sense of the revival of such appropriate gifts is not for a moment to be doubted. The medal which the Commonwealth of England gave to Admiral Blake is still the envy of every collector.

The Goths and Vandals of the Board of Works have not, under the plea of restoring, destroyed the famous pedestal of the statue of Charles I. at Charing-cross. They have let the pedestal stand, but have renewed the plinth on which the statue is fixed in granite instead of Portland stone. We will not quarrel with this, because the security of the statue had become a work of necessity. The snows and rains of London for more than a century and a half had so worn away the Portland stone plinth that a new one was more than needed. Scotch granite, however, does not harmonise with Portland stone; and here we might have been at least content with a Portland reproduction, leaving our children of A.D. 2900 to replace it in the same material (and from no false economy) out of their own pockets.

London, we are told—and told truly—is singularly deficient in places of amusement to which the public can resort in all weathers. This deficiency the experienced men who tell us this are about to supply in their own way. They want an appropriate spot of ten acres (at 1s. 1st) easy of access from all parts of London. Hyde-park is not open to them (it was not open to the Crystal Palace Company); but they can obtain possession of the Surrey Zoological Gardens, of ten acres, with water and trees. This spot has been chosen by a company determined, we are told (and we are glad to hear), to supply the admitted want. They have secured Jullien as conductor of their music; and nearly raised the sum they require—£40,000; and have obtained designs for a music-hall to hold ten thousand people. The Coal Hole and the Cider Cellars have sunk before Canterbury Hall and Mr. Green's new building at Evans's, to which we alluded last week. Canterbury and Mr. Green will not be in a better position from this new project when once established.

Dr. Sandwith, the only one who escaped from Kars to London to tell in person the story of the gallant defence and the as gallant surrender of that fortress, is busy—pen in hand—with a narrative of the defence and of his own adventures.

We can confirm our own approbation of a book just published by the criticism of one whose judgment (were we to mention his name) all would regard with the highest respect it deserves and receives. We have no greater want in English literature than a popular History of England. This Mr. Charles Knight has sought to supply; and though his work, from the number before us, will not satisfy a circle it was never designed to reach—the scholar and the antiquary—yet it is by far the best popular account of England we have, with all your Goldsmiths, and Pinnocks, and Keightleys, and a long et cetera put together. Mr. Knight is up with the most recent books of real learning on the subject he is handling; even the well-informed scholar may learn something of moment from his pages. No better existing book on the subject could be put into the hands of any boy between ten and fifteen; we might say twenty, but lads of twenty are what men of thirty were (in some things) about thirty years ago.

WILLS.—The will of Sir Robert Abercromby was proved in London, under £30,000 personally, within the province of Canterbury.—James Morrell, Esq., of Headington Hill, Oxford, £180,000.—Charles Barclay (Barclay, Perkins, and Co.), £80,000.—W. N. Clarke, D.C.L., of North Britain, £16,000.—Rev. John Sanford, Connaught-place, £20,000.—John Williams, Esq., St. Asaph, £30,000.—W. Ayscough Hallows, chemist, Islington, £10,000.—W. Wood, of Hackney, £18,000.—Colonel Z. C. Bayley, B.A., £8,000.—The will of Lieut-Colonel L. B. Tyler, 62nd Foot (Balaklava), and Major Aug. Fred. Welsford, 97th Foot (Sebastopol), have also been proved in London.—Daniel Grant, merchant, of Manchester, has bequeathed £500 to the Manchester Infirmary; £200 to the Manchester Lying-in Hospital; £200 to the Manchester Eye Institution; and £100 to the Birmingham Dispensary.

"ST. ABBS" EAST INDIAMAN.—This vessel was wrecked in June last off the coast of Madagascar, when Mr. W. H. Bell, second son of the late Lieut.-Colonel Charles Hamilton Bell, in the hope of obtaining succour for the passengers and crew, volunteered to swim ashore, and is supposed to have been lost in the attempt.

## EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord Canning, the new Governor-General of India, was still in Upper Egypt when the last steamer left, and the *Feroze*, which was to convey his Lordship to Bombay, was expected to arrive at Suez in a few days.

The Emperor of the French and the Duke of Cambridge drove on Monday out to the Bois de Boulogne. On reaching the lake they alighted from their carriage and took a walk round the ornamental water.

The King of Prussia has addressed a letter to General de Wrangel, through the Minister of War, blaming him strongly for having attended a Te Deum at the hotel of the Russian Legation at Berlin, in celebration of the taking of Kars.

Count Buol is said to have informed Prince Gortschakoff that the whole of the Austrian Legation would leave St. Petersburg on the 18th inst.

The Court of Directors of the East India Company purpose to invite Sir George Pollock to sit for his picture, to be hung up in the Examination Hall, or other public room, at Addiscombe.

The ex-Queen of the French, Marie Amelie, has completely recovered from the grave malady which lately caused serious fears to her family.

In consequence of an autograph letter from Napoleon III. to the Emperor of Austria, the latter directed the property of Count Arese, Count Borromeo, and Marquis Trivulzi Pallavicino, to be freed from sequestration.

The *Clonmel Chronicle* says:—"We understand a matrimonial alliance is about to take place between Captain Massy, 19th Regiment, and the Countess of Seafield."

The *Independence Belge* says:—"Great measures are in preparation with regard to the Empress. They will be of a nature to place in a striking light the dynastic importance of the event the realisation of which is now very near."

One day last week as the Earl of Eglinton was leaving the National Bank, Edinburgh, his pocket was picked of £100 which he had just drawn.

The Institute of Sweden has unanimously admitted Prince Lucien Bonaparte, who now finds himself a member of almost all the Academies of Europe.

The members of the Irish bar purpose entertaining Mr. Sausse, the new Bombay Judge, at a dinner of the profession, previously to his departure from Ireland.

General Mouravieff sent an officer of his staff to the Court of Persia to announce the capture of Kars, and to congratulate the Shah upon his victory at Herat.

On Monday last Viscount Raynham addressed the electors of Tamworth, and solicited their suffrages. It is said that the noble Lord will be elected without opposition.

The approaching marriage is announced of Prince Gabrielli with the Princess Charlotte Bonaparte.

The Council of the Royal Society have appointed the Bishop of Oxford as Fairchild Lecturer for the present year.

Queen Maria Christina is about to marry her second daughter to Prince del Drago, the heir to a great name and to a considerable fortune. It is this Princess who was on the point of espousing Prince of Corsini, son of Count de Casigliano, Tuscan Minister of Foreign Affairs, but the Prince died while the preparations were going on.

Mr. G. Cleice, Mr. R. Beddolph, and Mr. Thomas Evans are candidates for the vacancy likely to arise in the representation of Hereford.

Three new French Senators are shortly to be named—the Duke de Maille, the Duke de Valmy, and the Marquis de Bethusy.

Lord Panmure, Secretary of State for War, has been suffering some days past from an attack of gout. The attack prevented his Lordship from attending the Cabinet Council of yesterday week.

The Prince and Princess of Prussia, and the Princess Louisa, arrived at Berlin on the 10th from Coblenz. The day after the Prince was received by the King.

The following names have been mentioned as those of parties to whom the honour of the representation of Cambridge University is likely to be offered:—The Right Hon. Spencer H. Walpole (B.A., 1825); the Marquis of Granby (M.A., 1835); and Lord John Manners (M.A., 1839), all members of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Mr. Henry Berkeley, M.P., has commenced an action for libel against the proprietors of the *Alliance Weekly News*—a teetotal paper.

Captain Suzin, of the Russian Staff, ex-inspector of the military hospital of Kowno, has been degraded from the rank of noble, and condemned to serve as a private soldier, for making away with the public money, as well as with sums belonging to private individuals.

Dr. Scoresby is going to Australia in the *Royal Charter*, with an express view to make experiments relative to the variation of the compass in iron ships in the southern hemisphere.

Among the presentations by the American Minister to the Emperor Napoleon on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Emmett—the former the grand-nephew of the Emmett who suffered death for his attempt to revolutionise Ireland in 1802.

Lieut.-Colonel James, the head of the trigonometrical survey of the kingdom, and who was formerly attached to the geological survey of the country, is delivering a gratuitous course of lectures on practical geology to the members of the Southampton School of Art.

Liszt is about to visit Vienna, to conduct a grand musical solemnity, in honour of the centenary of Mozart.

M. Thalberg, the eminent pianist, has arrived at Lisbon, from Buenos Ayres.

The *Louisville Courier* learns from private New Orleans despatches that Dion Bourcicault is dead. He was manager of the Gaiety Theatre in that city, and was eminent as a dramatic author and as an actor. Mr. Bourcicault was the author of "London Assurance," and many other popular plays.

The *Oesterreichische Zeitung* has become the property of the Austrian Lloyd's Company.

A Dumfries paper states that the Lord Advocate will reintroduce his Education Bill in the approaching Session.

A new planet was discovered on Saturday last by M. Chacornac at the Observatory of Paris. Its brilliancy is equal to that of a star of the ninth or tenth magnitude; it is situated in the constellation of Cancer, some few degrees to the south-east of the nebulous Prosepe.

A boy born last week, the son of Mr. G. Johnson, of Elizabeth-street, Cheetham, Manchester, has four great grandfathers—the whole number, of course, that he could have—now living.

Alexandria and Cairo now communicate with each other by railway and electric telegraph. By the former the distance is eight hours.

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue give notice that they are now prepared to impress with postage stamps, denoting respectively the duties of 4d., 6d., and 1s., papers sent in by the public for the covers or envelopes of letters.

The Peruvian Legislature is about to sell all the guano in Chincha Islands, value 350,000,000 dollars.

A Royal proclamation orders the election of members of the Supreme Parliament of Denmark, which is convoked for the 11th February. The *Dagbladet* states that the elections must be concluded by the 22nd inst.

At the Epiphany Quarter Sessions held at Rye, on Thursday, there were no prisoners for trial. It was also stated that the gaol was empty.

The police of Berlin have forbidden newspapers to admit advertisements for wives and husbands, on the ground that they are contrary to propriety.

The Austrian Consul at Jerusalem has received from his Government a very large sum for the erection within the walls of the town of consular buildings, a hospice, and a palace for the Archbishop of Vienna.

The Greeks are in possession of about two-thirds of the land within the walls of Jerusalem, generally supposed to have been bought with Russian money.

Baron Von Seebach, Minister Plenipotentiary from Saxony to the Court of Tuilleries, has arrived at Paris from St. Petersburg.

The Pope's Minister of Finance has acknowledged a deficit of nearly a million of crowns in a budget of twelve millions.

Mr. Disraeli has issued cards of invitation to a Parliamentary dinner for Wednesday, the 30th inst.

Mr. Wilkinson has resigned his seat at the Metropolitan Board of Works.

On Monday morning a boiler explosion took place at the new ironworks, Lea Brook, Staffordshire, by which four men were killed, and eight others injured.

The nomination and election of a member for the city of Lincoln, in the room of the late Colonel Sibthorp, took place on Wednesday, when Major G. W. Sibthorp, son and heir of the late member, was returned without opposition.



CHARLES MACKAY'S NEW POEM.

ANOTHER of the poets has broken silence; and, thanks to whatever stars may have been dominant when the "Lump of Gold" came to light, the voice is no inarticulate sound, but manly, graceful, and lucid utterance. For the fulfilment of this first condition, so unhesitatingly neglected by most of the bards of the hour—that a poem shall be comprehensible—let us at the outset give all thanks to Charles Mackay. One of the old divines says that a poet, if he be indeed a poet, is "the bravest man in the world." We are disinclined to believe in the bravery of a good many of our modern lyrists. For if we accept the good old priest's definition as meaning that the chivalrous poet flings down an unmistakable truth before the millions and defies them to rend it in pieces, what is the courage of the challenger who presents a vague, elastic, aimless mass of phrases, that eludes criticism by its negativeness and incoherence? Such is not the poem before us. The writer knew what he meant to say; was furthermore, skilled in the art which enables men to be understood; and, thirdly, has not been afraid to set his whole heart before us.

This union of will and power has ever been characteristic of Charles Mackay. From his earliest effusions to those of his matured intellect he has always sought, as it appears to us, to set out his image, whether framed for the sensuous or the intellectual eye, with an artistic precision. He leaves no rubs nor blotches in his work. When he has to bid men prepare themselves for the battle, his trumpet—to use the inspired illustration—gives no uncertain sound. His love songs breathe love—not that mixture of endearment and sarcasm with which certain amouirists seem to make atonement to themselves for condescending to such a theme as love. His description-pictures are finished works, in which the value of a steady master-touch is seen and felt. And after a pause from his poetical labours (a pause whose length we should not easily forgive him, were we not aware that he has been doing good work in other fields), we find, as might be expected, the same habit of conscientious and truthful utterance which gave to his earlier works a charm beyond that of the fascinations of form. In the graces of his art he was always skilled, and singularly so in the mastery of rhythm, and his power over the music of language is extraordinary; but there is a nobler and higher merit in his more important works—*spiritus intus alit*—and it is as a poet-teacher that the author of "Egeria" has acquired, and will retain, the honourable recognition of his age, and his passport to posterity.

Very wisely, as it seems to us, has the poet, in his new work, eschewed legend and history, allegory and vision, and spoken to his hearers of the scenes, the passions, and the sorrows of the day. The new volume contains upwards of thirty poems, of various length; but the most important, and that which gives name to the book, occupies some ninety pages, and is composed in a varied series of metres. It delineates the guilt, the despair, the restoration, and the happiness of Edward Aubrey, who, the husband of a lovely and loving wife, Lillian, the eldest daughter of a noble-minded clergyman, leaves her, in order to seek in the gold regions a rapid fortune. He is ambitious, not sordid; and his ardent thirst for gold is stimulated by the desire to place those whom he loves in the possession of every luxury, intellectual as well as material. He keeps proudly aloof from his companions in adventure, with the exception of one—Heseltine—who is worthy to be his friend. Accidentally he discovers an enormous lump of gold, and for the moment is beside himself with triumph, and revels in the visions of happiness in store for him and his. But, to his horror, he finds himself unable to remove the gold by his single strength; and he dares not call in the aid of others, who would at least insist on sharing his prize, or murder him in order to possess it all. While brooding over his treasure his steps are tracked by his friend Heseltine, who asserts, under their compact, a right to one half the gold. The newly-born devil of covetousness inspires Aubrey, and he strikes down his friend with a blow. Believing that he has slain him, he becomes a prey to remorse; the gold-field is loathsome; and he flies from the shore he has polluted with blood, and hastens back to England, a prey to the fiercest mental agony. His reconciliation to life, the healing counsels of the pastor, the devotion of Lillian, and the subsequent arrival of Heseltine, constitute the principal portion of the poem.

Recurring to the phrase of our old divine, we may here recognise the courage of the poet. The ordinary and conventional moral is scarcely glanced at, the machinery of the poem evolving a far higher one. Aubrey's punishment comes upon him, it is true, by force of two accidental circumstances—the discovery of the gold, and the strife with his friend; and this is in accordance with the truth of life; but his punishment is really dealt to him for the original unworthiness that made him neglect the golden heart that he had won, yet undervalued, for the sake of winning the prizes of the world. And here the true poet comes forth, in the chivalry of his nature, the asserter of the superiority of the affections, and, chiefly, of woman's affection. The teaching of the poem is Love; and, by a skillfully-managed narrative, enriched with unusual pictorial graces, the author reconverts the chastised and instructed wanderer to the bosom he should never have left. *Felix exitum* (if one may somewhat pervert the phrase) *cui locus iste datur*. Like all poems of true manliness, it is a woman's poem.

Our extracts have been purposely selected with a view of not injuring the general effect of the poem by acquainting the reader with the best passages in isolation; and herein we have adopted the reverse course to that usual with reviewers, who hesitate not to adorn their own embroidery with an author's choicest gems. We chiefly desire to fulfil the requirements of the literary department of a journal, by giving a just idea of the character of a new poem. The following passage refers to Aubrey's desolation in London on his return:—

"Madness broods over me!  
Kind-hearted Death—  
Canst thou not shelter me?  
Vain is my breath!  
Take it and welcome—  
And low let me lie;  
Low in the quiet grave;  
Deep in the doleful wave;  
Weary of living,  
Unworthy to die."

Down came the drenching rain,  
Bubbling and swelling—  
Fierce blew the gusty wind,  
Roaring and yelling.  
The senate was silent,  
Its orators fled;  
The ball-room was empty,  
Its roses were dead.  
Listless or half awake  
Through the dull town,

Morning breaks upon the view of the despairing man:—

In gold and in purple,  
In amber and grey,  
Under the steeple vanes,  
Eastward away,  
Over the house-tops  
Blushed the new day.  
Filling not wholly  
Heaven's azure cup,  
But faintly and slowly  
Morn travelled up.

We have later an exquisite description of Vale, the large-minded, warm-hearted pastor, father of Lillian, Aubrey's wife. For the beautiful, half-piquant idea which we have ventured to mark, good old George Herbert would have hastened from the church porch to welcome the poet:—

'Twas Sunday morn, and Parson Vale,  
Beloved of high and low,  
With smiles for all men's happiness,  
And heart for every woe,  
Walked meekly to the parish church,  
With hair as white as snow—  
Walked meekly to the parish church,  
Amid his daughters three—  
There were more angels at his side  
Than mortal eyes could see—  
The four were seven—for with them  
Went  
Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Vale preaches Religion in Common Things. Here is an "olden tale" that he tells to his parishioners within the hearing of Edward Aubrey:—

THE BUILDER.

"What art thou building, building,  
So lofty to behold,  
With the silver and the gilding,  
The ivory and the gold,  
And porphyry columns rising  
Like trees in the forest old!"

"Why place thy marble basements  
So deep in the cold earth's veins;  
And thy towers and window casements  
So high o'er the steeple fane;  
And why those ponderous portals  
With iron bolts and chains?"

"And why those guards and warders,  
With horn and signal calls;  
And, far on the furthest borders,  
The moats and brazen walls;—  
Dost fear invading robbers,  
Or the foemen in thy halls?"

"I build a house of splendour,  
Where, in the world's despite,  
I may force the hours to render  
Their tribute of delight;  
A house on the hill-top shining,  
Far seen, like the star at night."

"I dread nor thief, nor foeman;  
My board shall teem with cheer;

We could willingly increase the number of our extracts, but, unwilling to spoil the interest of the story for a single reader, we will abstain from plunder, and at once resign the "Lump of Gold" to our readers, assuring them that any true touchstone which their poetical chemistry may have taught them to apply will but convince them of the standard character of the ore. But they have known Charles Mackay long enough to take any gold he may present, not only with trust, but with thankfulness. We must not close our notice without mentioning that upwards of thirty smaller poems are added, and unite to compose one of the most delightful volumes of the day. Some of these poems have appeared in print, but the majority are new; and among them are some charming love verses—some of those nervous lyrics of the school with which the author's name is inseparably connected; some thoughtful but playful verses; and a noble war-hymn. The journalist who sits to audit the world's accounts, and to note how Genius pays its debt to its age, has not often to record a claim more worthily discharged.

L. P.

MUSIC.

MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT has commenced a series of "Miscellaneous Concerts" in the metropolis. The first took place on Thursday (last week); the second is announced for Friday next—both at the Hanover-square Rooms. She has given concerts of this description at Brighton and Liverpool. Having, by her appearances at Exeter-hall established her supremacy as an oratorio singer, she is now exhibiting by means of these miscellaneous concerts the extent and variety of her powers in music of a lighter character. The first was essentially a concert of display; its object being to show what marvellous things the fair prima donna can do in the mechanism of her art. It was evidently for this purpose, and not for its intrinsic excellence, that the music sung by her was mainly selected. One of her pieces was a long scena, consisting of a recitative and air from Bellini's "Beatrice di Tenda," one of the weakest and least successful operas of this composer. The air, "Ma la sola," is a slight commonplace rondo; one of those things which, having no substance in themselves, serve merely as an outline to be filled up *ad libitum* by the singer. This Jenny Lind did, showing her inventive genius as well as her vocal power; for her *fortitudo* and embellishments were as original in conception as they were brilliant in execution. She clothed Bellini's meagre melody with a richness and beauty in which he had no share. Her next performance was still more exclusively a piece of display—a feat, we may call it, of musical gymnastics. It was not vocal music at all, being a series of Chopin's *pianoforte mazourkas*, some of the most difficult things ever written for that instrument, and which none but a first-rate pianist can perform according to the author's intentions. These things Jenny Lind sang, surmounting their difficulties in a manner as marvellous as the famous one-stringed exploits of Paganini. The audience were astounded, and gave vent to their amazement in thunders of applause. Her whole performances, however, were not confined to such displays. There were other things in which she showed far higher qualities—that enchanting simplicity and pathetic expression in which she is unrivalled. These were, the beautiful prayer of *Agathe*, in the "Freischütz," breathed with heartfelt fervour; and the finest of all the Scottish ballads, "John Anderson my Jo," sung with a simplicity, truth, and tenderness which ravished every heart and moistened many an eye. She concluded with the Swedish "Echo Song" which she frequently sang during her former visit. It is a most quaint and curious specimen of Scandinavian music.

Mr. Otto Goldschmidt played several pieces on the *pianoforte*—Beethoven's Concerto in G major, Mendelssohn's Capriccio in B minor, and Sebastian Bach's Saraband and Allegro in A minor. He showed himself a highly-schooled performer of the pure classical school, and was warmly and deservedly applauded. In addition to the pieces already mentioned, the programme included two songs by Herr Reichardt—the aria, "Constanze," from Mozart's "Seraglio;" and the romance, "Più Bianca," from the "Huguenots"—both of which he sang with his usual excellence and success. It is proper to add that the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Benedict, consisted of the most eminent performers on every instrument. The room, notwithstanding the high rates of admission, was crowded to the doors.

GRAND AMATEUR CONCERT AT WORCESTER.—This concert, which takes place on Tuesday next, is exciting great interest in the county and city, and promises to be most successful. It will be given in the Music-hall, which will be decorated throughout with festoons and trellis-work of flowers, from which will be suspended variously-coloured lamps. The band and chorus will number upwards of sixty, and comprise all the leading amateurs of Worcestershire; among them we may mention Miss Lechmere, Miss Berkeley, Mrs. Pidcock, the Misses West, Miss Temple, Lord Ward, Mr. Morant, Mr. Denning, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Isaac, Mr. Peel, &c. The programme will be very varied, and include the introduction to Spohr's "Jessonda," Sir H. Bishop's "Daughter of Error," the opening of the second act of "Il Trovatore," two pieces from Meyerbeer's "Etoile du Nord," "Ombra Adorata" of Zingarelli, "Adelaide" of Beethoven, Overture to "Zampa," a new Concertina Solo from "Il Trovatore" by Mr. Blagrove, and a selection from Verdi's "Ernani," for fourteen concertinas.

THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—The Wizard of the North has long announced his intention of enabling the London public to judge of his histrionic talents by the performance of *Rob Roy*. We were not taken by surprise at this, for we had frequently heard from competent witnesses that Mr. Anderson had obtained in America and Scotland considerable practice in the character, and really supported it with remarkable force and effect. On Monday the professor gave us the opportunity of judging for ourselves—an opportunity of which the public also largely availed itself, for the house was crowded: the dense masses in the pit and gallery were unmistakable evidences of the extraordinary interest excited by the occasion. We were not disappointed;—not only the play, but the hero, was worth seeing. Mr. Anderson's *Rob Roy* is rough, racy, and energetic. His stalwart person aided the illusion; and the force of his elocution admirably corroborated that of the dramatic situations. The play was capably placed on the stage;—indeed, at great cost, for the various groups were numerically very strong, and the cast was in many respects entirely new:—*Bailie Nicol Jarvie* was personated by Mr. Gourlay—himself, we believe, a Scotchman—and he gave us the character with abundant unction, but without exaggeration. Never "overstepping the modesty of nature," he realised without caricaturing the part. He was, rather than acted, the man—a result so seldom attained on the boards that it should be well cherished when met with. The *Dougal* creature was powerfully embodied by Mr. Pearson, and deserves to be highly commended. Some of the minor parts also had clever representatives, such as *Major Gallbraith*, by Mr. Sam Cowell,

whose humour, though somewhat too broad, was highly relished by the audience. Then there was for *Helen Macgregor* the unrivalled Mrs. J. W. Wallack, who in such characters reminds us of Mrs. Egerton, but having more dignity and refinement. Miss Harriet Gordon and Mr. George Perren filled the musical characters of *Diana Vernon* and *Francis Osbaldistone* with satisfactory completeness, and sang the songs and duets with taste and power. *Rashleigh Osbaldistone* had a competent representative in Mr. Stuart, who acted with his usual energy. The accessories of the performance, we have said, were costly; we have only to add that they were also effective, and that seldom has anything been placed on the stage in a more picturesque, interesting, and charming manner than the present version of "Rob Roy," in the production of which the manager has shown a laudable ambition to make it the best thing of the kind, and has succeeded to the full extent in actualising his purpose.

PRINCESS'.—On Thursday there was a morning performance of the pantomime at this theatre, which, however, was closed in the evening, her Majesty having required the services of the management at Windsor Castle.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 15, 1856.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 32° F. 181 feet above sea level.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Rain in Inches.	Mean Temperature of		Amount of		Mean amount of Cloud.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.			Wet Bulb.	Evapo-ration.	In the Night.	In the Day.	
Jan. 9	29.116	37.8	32.8	35.4	0.015	33.4	33.1	2	2	9.9
" 10	29.323	36.8	29.5	32.0	0.000	29.7	30.6	1	0	4.5
" 11	29.765	35.8	21.9	29.4	0.000	28.2	27.5	2	2	0.1
" 12	30.309	34.6	27.5	30.8	0.000	30.0	30.0	7	0	2.2
" 13	30.553	37.0	20.2	28.6	0.000	29.8	25.6	1	0	0.5
" 14	30.277	35.8	18.5	26.4	0.000	24.9	25.5	1	1	0.8
" 15	29.771	37.0	21.0	29.8	0.000	30.0	28.9	2	0	3.2
Mean	29.873	36.4	24.5	30.1	0.015	28.6	28.7	2.3	0.7	3.0

The range of temperature during the week was 19.3°.

The weather very fine, with frost, which commenced on the 9th, and was very severe; the greatest cold on grass on the 13th was 16°; 14th, 13°; 15th, 13°. On the 9th Aurora Borealis, and on the 11th slight fall of snow. The direction of the wind was N till 5 a.m. of 9th, then N.N.E. till 3h. 45m. a.m. of 10th, then N. till 5h. 30m. a.m., then N.N.E. till 7 a.m., N. till 11 a.m., N.N.E. till 5h. 45m. p.m., then N. till 9h. 15m. of 11th; then N.N.W. till 1h. 30m. a.m., then again N. till 11 a.m. of 12th, then N.N.W. till 3h. 45m. p.m. when N.W. becoming N.N.W. at 7h. 15m. p.m., and N. at 7h. 30m. p.m.; again N.N.W. at 11h. 30m. p.m. till 12h. 45m. a.m. of 13th, when N.W. till 12h. 15m. p.m., when W.N.W. at 12h. 45m. p.m. became W.; at 8h. 45m. a.m. the wind veered suddenly through N. to E.N.E., in which quarter it remained till 4 p.m., when N.E. became E. at 5 p.m., E.N.E. at 7h. 45m. p.m., changing to N.N.E. at 7h. 15m. a.m. of the 15th, and to N. by W. at 7h. 25m. a.m., to N.W. at 10 a.m., to W. at 10h. 30m. a.m., to S.W. at 11h. 15m. a.m., to S.S.W. at 2h. 30m. p.m., to S.W. at 3h. 30m. p.m., to W.S.W. at 9h. 45m. p.m., in which quarter it remained. The Trent became frozen over on the night of the 14th. The greatest cold on grass at the Beeston Observatory on the 14th was 10.3°, being 2.7° colder than that at Highfield House. The barometer rose 1½ inch to the 13th, and fell three-quarters of an inch to the 15th.

E. J. LOWE.

BONA FIDE STARVATION.—In the storm of the night of Tuesday, the 18th ult., at about ten o'clock, the schooner *Ellen*, of Wisbeach, was cast ashore at the entrance of the Tay. At the moment that she struck a poor boy was washed away and perished, and after a time the master, the mate, and two hands succeeded in gaining the inhospitable shore, and made for the lights on the railway. Unfortunately, it was past eleven o'clock before they were able to claim admittance at the door of an inn, where they were refused shelter; and on application at other houses of so-called entertainment these unprofitable customers were "not heard." In fact, in Carnoustie the law is so rigorously observed that it was three hours before these poor, half-drowned, perishing strangers received that shelter they thought they had a right to expect in a Christian land. At last, it appears, they fell into the hands of one who considered them to be both "bona fide travellers and bona fide fellow-creatures;" and, regardless of the law, took them in and made them as comfortable as his circumstances would allow.—*North British Daily Mail*.

ATTEMPT TO POISON A WIFE.—Thomas Robson, alias William Wilson, was brought before the magistrates at Newcastle on Monday, charged with attempting to poison his wife and her fellow-servant, on the 1st of December last. The prisoner, it appeared, was a deserter from the Coldstream Guards, and was separated from his wife. On the 1st of December he had gone to see her at Mr. Foster's, and he appeared to be kind and affectionate to his wife. She saw him to the door, and as they were parting he gave her a bottle of whisky, and said he had brought it from Scotland for her; that she had to take one-half of it when she went to bed, and give the other half to her fellow-servant, and that it would do them good. Mrs. Robson took a mouthful of its contents, and her fellow-servant also drank a small quantity. Both women were ill all night, and next morning they found a quantity of sediment in the bottom of the bottle. Upon submitting the sediment to a chemical test it was found to be impregnated with sugar of lead in the proportion of twenty grains of sugar of lead to each ounce of liquid. When apprehended at Acomb, the prisoner denied that he was a married man, that his name was Robson, or that he had been at Newcastle on the 1st of December. The magistrates remanded the case for a few days, as it appears that the prisoner had offered marriage to a young woman named Temperley, and had just been on the point of being married to her when she heard that he was a married man, and refused to have anything further to do with him.

THE MURDER OF MISS HINDS.—There is a hope, perhaps—but a vague one—that justice has at length overtaken the parties implicated in the brutal murder of Miss Hind. In the *Dublin Mail* of Monday night it is stated that several men are now lodged in Cavan Gaol charged with being concerned in the mid-day butchery. They are, it seems, with one exception, tenants on the estate of the victim. A man named James Murphy, from the county of Leitrim, is accused as a principal, and one Thomas Dunn is charged as being the chief conspirator and concocter of the diabolical plot.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GUARD AND DRIVER.—This desideratum in railway trains is secured by a new invention about to be applied on the South-Western Railway. Every train will have a gutta percha tube extending its whole length. This tube will be formed of parts which are attached to each other by a spring clip, so that the length of the tube can be made to correspond with the length of any train. This tube is connected with an air-pump in the guard's van in front, and with the guard's van at the end of the train. By a stroke of this pump the air is forced through the tube to the opposite end of the train, and produces a very loud and shrill whistle at a mouthpiece attached to the tube in each guard's van, and to a mouthpiece which extends also close to the engine-driver. One whistle means "Look out," two whistles signify "Caution," and three whistles denote "Danger."

SARDINIAN NAVAL PREPARATIONS.—A letter from Genoa of the 6th, in the *Constitutionnel*, says:—"The greatest activity prevails in the arsenal and building-yard here, in order to launch with the least possible delay the screw steam-frigate the *Vittorio Emanuele*, of fifty guns. The sailing frigates which have been lying here dismantled are also to be got ready for sea, and a levy of 1000 sailors is now in course of operation. This flotilla is not to join the Allied forces in the Baltic, but will proceed to the mouths of the Danube, if the efforts of Austria to bring about peace do not succeed."

DEATH OF THE REV. JOHN DUDLEY.

THIS venerable divine, who died on Monday, the 7th inst., was the eldest son of the Rev. John Dudley (who was Vicar of Humberstone, in Leicestershire, thirty-four years), and grandson of the Rev. Paul Dudley, also Vicar of Humberstone forty-five years. He was born in 1762, and was educated at Uppingham School. In 1784 he proceeded to Clare Hall, Cambridge; and obtained honours in 1785, as second wrangler and mathematical prizeman. He was elected Fellow in 1787, and Tutor in 1788. He vacated in 1794, and succeeded his father as Vicar of Humberstone. He was presented to the Vicarage of Sibley, in 1795, by the patron, the late William Pochin, Esq., and was appointed Domestic Chaplain to the late Marquis of Exeter. On his leaving College a handsome testimonial of plate was given to him by his pupils. In 1809 he was elected by the University Senate to preach the Buchanan Sermon. He has been a great benefactor to both his parishes, not only by his kindness and liberality to the poor, but also by restoring and beautifying the churches of both. He entirely repaved and built a new porch to Humberstone Church at his own expense, besides otherwise restoring it. He gave three handsome painted windows to Sibley Church, and other decorations. He rebuilt the old bridge in the village; and, by his active exertions and some cost to himself, he enforced the rebuilding of another bridge in the parish of Sibley, which, from its dangerous state for a long period of time, had been the cause of many accidents. In 1845 a handsome silver epergne was presented to him by his parishioners of Sibley (solely), as a tribute of their esteem and respect. He was a liberal donor to many of the charitable institutions of the county, and to the building of new churches. For forty-



seven years he was one of her Majesty's most able and active justices of the peace; and for several years acted as Chairman of the Quarter Sessions held at Leicester Castle, in the second court—occasionally in the first. He was the author of several learned works—viz., "The Metamorphosis of Sona"—a Hindoo legend in verse, after the manner of Ovid; "An Essay on the Rivers Niger and Nile," "Neology," "The Antimaterialist, denying the reality of Matter, and showing the universality of Spirit." He preached regularly in both churches until September, 1854, and since that time occasionally. He preached his last sermon on the 16th December last, and the severe weather during the following week brought on an attack of bronchitis, which proved fatal. He died on the 7th inst.; within a



THE LATE REV. JOHN DUDLEY, VICAR OF SILEBY, LEICESTERSHIRE, AGED 93.

few days of the patriarchal age of 94; and, at the close of a long and useful life, he awaited the approach of death with serenity, rejoicing in the hope of eternal life.

#### THE MALVERN MONSTER BEACON.

ALTHOUGH the Malvern Monster Beacon did not originate with some "young sparks"—as was jestingly asserted by the *Athenaeum*—but was primarily enkindled in the glowing imaginations of "grave and reverend seniors," yet, like many other monster undertakings, it grew out of small beginnings.

In the first instance it was intended to have been a simple bonfire to commemorate the lighting of Malvern with gas; and, therefore, only locally interesting. But the project increased in importance as it became more widely known, and was carried to the height which it finally assumed by a letter from the distinguished naturalist, Mr. Edwin Lees, which was published in the *Worcester Herald*, and, from thence, copied into the London and provincial papers. The attention of scientific men was thus drawn to the subject; and, as the inland position of the "Worcestershire Beacon"—which, as being the highest portion of the Malvern range, was fixed upon as the best spot for the bonfire—and its elevation of 1444 feet above the level of the sea made it a very advantageous position for scientific purposes, it was at length decided by the promoters of the bonfire scheme that a beacon should be erected of such dimensions, as



THE MALVERN MONSTER BEACON.

should make a fire sufficiently brilliant for accurate observation at great distances. Mr. Lees' letter contained a list of the hills and eminences from which, under propitious circumstances, the beacon would be visible; and, the night and time for the lighting being duly fixed, many thousands of the inhabitants of a score of English and Welsh counties were on the *qui vive* of expectation for the evening of the 10th of January.

It came—cold, clear, and starlight; a most unlooked-for change from the unpropitious weather of the previous days. The Beacon had been raised, or rather built, by Mr. McCann, of Malvern, and towered up like a huge Druid idol. Twelve iron-banded poplar-trees, marking out a circle of thirty-five feet, that narrowed to its summit, kept together the *matériel*—450 faggots, 5 cords of wood, 12 tar-barrels, 2 tons of coals, 3 or 4 loads of hop poles, 2 loads of furze, 2 barrels of tar, and 1 of naphtha. These combustibles had been procured at the cost of more than £50, three-fourths of which had been raised by a public subscription, to which the Lady Emily Foley, the Earl Beauchamp, the Hon. Colonel Scott, and many other influential persons, contributed; and, at the expense of Mr. McCann, had been hauled to the summit of the hill by a new waggon-road, made for the occasion. The poplar-trees were taken up in a waggon, drawn by nine horses—this being, doubtless, the first appearance of such a vehicle on the summit of the Worcestershire Beacon.

Hundreds of visitors poured into Malvern, and a far larger number took up favourable positions in the vicinity. The promise that this fashionable watering-place was to shine in the unwonted brilliancy of gas was but partially kept; nevertheless, there were some unaccustomed lights in "V. A." and "N. E." illuminations, which flickered fitfully among the waving flags of the Allied Powers that decorated the front of the Belle Vue Hotel. Gaily-appareled confectionery stalls also contributed to give the place a festive, not to say a fair-y, appearance.

At six o'clock the Chairman of the Committee (P. Marriott, Esq.), Mr. Lees, Professor Buckman, and the other members of the Committee, with their friends—in all, sixty in number—set out from St. Anne's Well, and, torch in hand, proceeded to the summit of the Worcestershire Beacon. The effect of this torchlight procession as it wound up the zigzag

path was exceedingly picturesque as long as it lasted; for, ere they could reach the Beacon, the furious north-east wind had puffed out first one and then another of the torches, until at length the procession was left to conclude the ascent in darkness. The ascent, too, was rendered a toilsome one, not only by the cutting force of this north-easter, but also by the snow, which had drifted in some places to a considerable depth. The continued procession of eight seers, however, soon beat out a path; and by the time that the Beacon was lighted upwards of 1500 people had assembled on the summit of the hill. A large proportion consisted of "the curious daughters of Eve," who had braved the toil of the ascent, the cutting wind, and the intense cold, in order to have their laudible curiosity gratified. Among this section of the spectators round hats and Malvern poles were in great favour—the latter being more useful than the former. Indeed, even with the assistance of a Malvern-pole, it was at times next to impossible for a lady (or, for the matter of that, a gentleman) to stand on the ridge of the hill without being propelled by the high wind some distance (be it more, or be it less) into Herefordshire. To avoid these disagreeable consequences as much as possible, the spectators descended a little way on the Herefordshire side of the hill, where comparative shelter was afforded to them, although the drifted snow was frequently driven in an uncomfortable rain upon their heads.

At a quarter before seven a blue light was burnt, succeeded by a red light. At seven o'clock, Greenwich time, a magnificent flight of fifty rockets rushed into the heavens, and burst into a galaxy of falling stars—the signal to distant spectators of the lighting of the Beacon. This was shortly accomplished, though not without some difficulty. The fierce wind, instead of allowing the flames to mount perpendicularly, drove them out horizontally with all the fury of a blast furnace, in the direction of Herefordshire. It is to this circumstance that the Monster Beacon probably owed its want of success—for unsuccessful, or partially so, it certainly was; for, while it was very visible in the south and west, it was barely perceptible in the east and north: thus, in Gloucester, the correspondent of the *Worcester Herald* states the result to have been "highly satisfactory," and, in fact, the entire must have been of immense



THE MALVERN MONSTER BEACON.—SKETCHED NEAR MADRESFIELD.





NEW AQUEDUCT AT TRIESTE.—THE MACHINE-ROOMS.

altitude to have shown at so great advantage;" while the Dudley correspondent of the same paper, who was posted on the tower of the Castle, "on the highest land in this kingdom," states that he discovered the Monster Beacon with great difficulty, after bringing a telescope to bear upon it; and at Worcester (ten miles from Malvern) "a small dull red light, such as a brazier of incandescent charcoal would give out," was the only visible result of the Beacon. In fact, a local paper goes further than this, and says, "The Bath road was crowded with curious spectators, who, from six p.m. till ten, resolutely bent their regards on Malvern; but no beacon glare rewarded their perseverance. There were a number of carriages on the spot, whose freight were destined to suffer the like disappointment; and, gradually, the disgusted crowd drew off, some of them vehemently declaring the whole thing was a hoax."

They would not have said so, however, had they been on the summit of the Worcestershire Beacon and in the hot vicinity of the monster fire. Whatever may have been its effect in a scientific point of view, its pictorial effect was undoubtedly great; and our modern Rembrandts might advantageously have studied its wondrous changes of light and shade. There was the tall pile of the Beacon, dark at the summit, but at its base alight with red and orange flames that rushed out longitudinally into wreathed masses of velvety smoke, and drove a fiery rain of sparks far into the darkness; there was the hill, white with snow, though partially irradiated with the light of the fire, the brown and red rocks "cropping out" in places, the short grass showing in others; there were the spectators massed in dark groups, lighted up with fiery reflections; and, over all, was the deep blue sky studded with silvery stars. It was a scene of great "effects," which

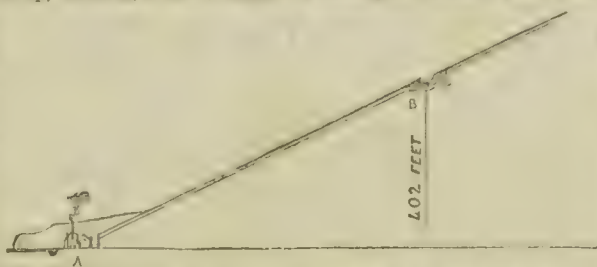
fierce extremes employ;

and might worthily have been transferred to the canvas by a Turner or a Millais, or any other artist (if there be one) who could as successfully, as truthfully, depict "the leaping pulses of the raging fire."

The last beacon lighted on Malvern-hill was the one mentioned in Macaulay's famous Armada ballad, when—

Twelve fair counties saw the blaze from Malvern's lonely height.

According to Mr. Lees, it was possible for the following seventeen counties to have seen the beacon:—Worcester, Hereford, Gloucester, Salop, Warwick, Stafford, Leicester, Northampton, Oxford, Wilts, Berks,



A. End-view of Machine-rooms. B. Side-view of the Basin.

NEW AQUEDUCT AT TRIESTE.

Somerset, Glamorgan, Monmouth, Brecon, Radnor, Montgomery; and it might also have been seen from the summit of Snowdon, and from the observatory erected (for this occasion) by Sir T. D. Acland, on Exmoor.

Our Illustrations—from original sketches by Mr. Cuthbert Bede—represent the lighting of the Monster Beacon; and a view of the Malvern range, taken in the neighbourhood of Madresfield, the seat of the Earl Beauchamp.

#### THE NEW AQUEDUCT AT TRIESTE.

Of late years, in consequence of the extension of its suburbs and the increase of its population from ten to sixty thousand, the supply of water in Trieste has fallen greatly short of the demand. The municipality has, at different periods, gone to a considerable expense in having the environs of the town explored and studied, but none of the numerous reformatory projects met the exigencies of the case. At length, however, when the railroad was planned between Vienna and Trieste, the Austrian Government interfered in the matter, as it was found that the engines would require large supplies of water at Trieste. A company was accordingly started under the auspices of Baron Bruck—the Austrian Minister of Finance, and founder of the Austrian "Lloyd's"—for the purpose of erecting a new aqueduct to convey water from a spring at the side of Mount Sante Croce, about two leagues distance. The first illustration is the plan for the machine-rooms; the second illustration represents the profile of the mountain, showing the height to which it is necessary to raise the water, and the direction of the tubes of the aqueduct; and the third, the state of the works at the present time.



NEW AQUEDUCT AT TRIESTE.—PRESENT STATE OF THE WORKS.







**NO. 3 PATENT**—For a valuable and extraordinary Improvement in the most powerful and brilliant **TELESCOPES**, Camp, Raccours, Opera, and Perspective, and to know the distances, at Messrs. S. and B. **80LOMONS'**, Opticians, 33, Albemarle-street, London, W., opposite the York Hotel. They possess such extraordinary power, to come, from 53 to 6 inches, with an extra eyepiece will show distinctly the Georgian with his six satellites, Jupiter's moons, Saturn's rings and the double stars. With the same Telescopes can be seen a person's countenance from three and a half to six miles distant, and an object at six miles distant, as a ship at sea, as a person in a room, and of larger and all sizes, with lucid and brilliant views of the moon, &c. 1851.—Valuable very small powerful waistcoat telescope, of the size of a walnut, by which a person can be seen and known, at night and a half distant; country scenery and ships are clearly seen at twelve to fourteen miles. They are valuable for the theatre, for staking, racing, to sportsmen, gentlemen, gamekeepers, and tourists. The valuable advantage derived from them is, that vision becomes impaired is preserved and strengthened, and very aged persons are enabled to employ their sight at the most minute occupation—can see with those lenses of a much less magnifying power, and they do not require the frequent changes to the lenses and others of further powerful assistance.

**DEAFNESS**.—**THE ORGANIC VIBRATOR**, an extended nearly powerful, small, easily-invented instrument, for deaf persons, that can be used from any age, the person using anything of the kind has not been, or probably ever can be, prevented from hearing the sound of the skin, it is not perceptible. It is used at public assemblies, distinctly at church and at public assemblies. The unpleasant sensation of singing noises in the ears is entirely removed; and it affords all the assistance that could possibly be desired.—39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly. Observe, opposite the York Hotel.



(Continued from page 70.)

clouds. The day, however, was very mild, with scarcely a "catpaw" on the water. Sun shone at mid-day, and warm at times. About 4.30 p.m., however, the weather became all at once very cold to what it had been. At 4h. 50m. p.m., as I was looking to the southward from East Cowes, I observed a ball of fire descend vertically, S.S.W. by compass, which seemed to have shot forth from the heavens from an altitude of sixty degrees, and descended in a straight line and burst at an elevation of about twenty or twenty-five degrees, presenting the most brilliant colours, from bright silvery white to deep yellow—then red and blue, in every respect similar to a sky-rocket. The train which

A B C



THE METEOR, AS SEEN OVER THE MEDIN, ISLE OF WIGHT.

it left behind appeared about fifteen degrees or more in length, like a rod of silver. After remaining so about twenty or thirty seconds, it gradually expanded itself and bent in the centre; and exactly five minutes afterwards (4h. 50m.) assumed a serpentine appearance (as indicated Fig. B). At five p.m., it appeared like a white fleecy cloud (Fig. C); and at 5h. 5m. it entirely disappeared. But when it assumed the form B, I observed with a "py-glass" the "train," or "tail," to be composed of myriads of sparks until it gradually appeared like smoke. I attributed the serpentine shape to have arisen from an upper current of air. From first to last the object was visible fifteen minutes. Many persons here fancied it fell at Osborne; but, from subsequent knowledge, I find the same meteor was observed at Bembridge, Shanklin, and other places at the back of the island, and fell into the sea in the S.E. quarter.—JOHN SMITH.

Wareham, Dorset.

On Monday afternoon, about a quarter before five o'clock, a very large and beautiful meteor was seen to descend rapidly from the zenith, taking a direction S.S.E. At first a small streak of vapoury light was seen to rush from a great elevation, gradually increasing in breadth, and as it reached the denser atmosphere its head became intensely brilliant—descended with increased velocity, and, leaving a broader train, suddenly exploded, and fell in sparks towards the earth. The time occupied in its descent was but a few seconds; but the cloud which it left behind expanded in size, and about the middle spread out considerably in the form of a crescent, as if the upper and lower portions were acted upon by the wind, from its greater lightness, while the more massy crescent-shaped portion remained stationary, rolling over and over in vast volumes, not unlike cumulus clouds brilliantly lit up in a clear sunlight; and it

is probable its brilliant whiteness may, from its great elevation, have derived its appearance from a similar cause. The cloud-like appearance remained stationary for about two minutes before it assumed the shape above described, and it retained its brilliant whiteness for several minutes, assuming a fainter hue at the extremities.

I hazard the opinion, from the length of time it remained visible, that it must have been at a high elevation. It was seen at Wareham and its immediate neighbourhood in the direction above named, the observers looking south-east; while at Swanage, ten miles distant, the observers faced the north; so that, if any meteoric matter fell from it on exploding, it must have been midway between these places—probably a little west of Uwell. Altogether it remained visible about fifteen minutes—an amazing period when we recollect that in most cases these phenomena may be described as momentary only.

The ruins in the Sketch are the noted remains of Corfe Castle: and the hills flanking these ruins the equally well-known range of chalk hills that run through the Isle of Purbeck.

C. G.

## TESTIMONIAL TO LORD DYNEVOR.

On the 2nd inst. the Shire-hall of Llandilo, in North Wales, was the scene of a very gratifying event, upon the occasion of the presentation of a well-deserved Testimonial to the Right Honourable Lord Dynevor, who, as Colonel Trevor, was for thirty-five years the able representative of the county of Carmarthen in the Commons' House of Parliament, upon Constitutional and Conservative principles. Throughout this long public career Lord Dynevor has been universally respected for his liberal sympathy with all objects calling for the exercise of Christian kindness, as well as for his affa-

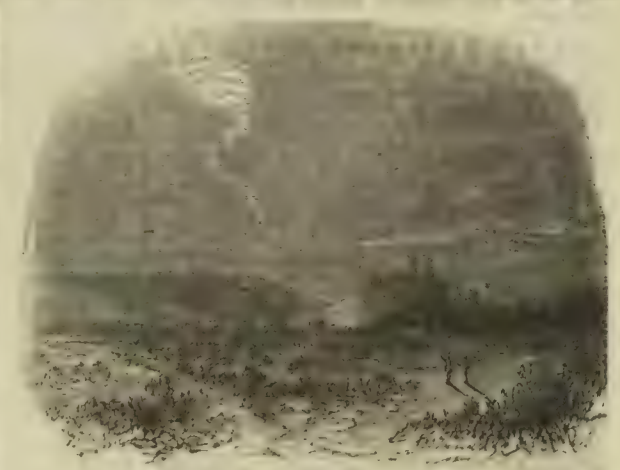


THE RIGHT HON. LORD DYNEVOR.—FROM THE PRESENTATION PORTRAIT, PAINTED BY J. LUCAS.

bility and courtesy. "In some of the most extraordinary political and social incidents of this period," says the *Carmarthen Journal*, "Lord Dynevor has taken part. But during the long and heated controversy respecting the Reform Bill—pending the desperate Corn-law agitation—amidst the more local excitement of the Rebecca riots (when his zeal and efficiency as Vice-Lieutenant of this county were pointedly apparent, and were, we are glad to say, duly appreciated by his Sovereign), or whilst matters of any kind of importance or moment were under discussion and deliberation, Lord Dynevor has displayed the same unvarying consistency, affability, and urbanity." Among his acts of charity may be mentioned the establishment of the Carmarthenshire Infirmary, the recent voluntary offer to construct the new national schools at Llandilo at his own expense, and the undeviating support given to the Welsh schools in London.

Soon after the elevation of Colonel Trevor to the Peerage a fund was raised for presenting his Lordship with a testimonial, which it was arranged should be a portrait of himself. The commission was intrusted to Mr. J. Lucas, who has painted a remarkably fine whole-length impersonation of his Lordship, whence the accompanying illustration has been engraved.

The ceremony of presenting this fine picture took place in the Shire-hall, which was well filled by an aristocratic and anxious assemblage, and



THE METEOR, AS SEEN NEAR CORFE CASTLE, WAREHAM, DORSET.

a numerous portion of the humbler classes was present to testify their appreciation of the noble Lord's worth. The chair was taken by Sir John Mansel, Bart.

In the picture Lord Dynevor wears the uniform of Aide-de-Camp to the Queen; in the distance are the ruins of the ancient Dynevor Castle, verdant woods, and sweetly-flowing Towy. The picture is in Mr. Lucas's best manner, and his mezzotint engraving from it is of equal merit.

The proceedings of the presentation were commenced by Mr. Spurrell, Secretary to the Committee, reading the resolution passed at the meeting of the Committee on the 5th of July last:—

At a meeting of the subscribers to the Testimonial to Lord Dynevor, held Llandilo, on the motion of the Earl of Cawdor, seconded by Viscount Emllyn it was resolved that Sir John Mansel, Bart., be requested to present, on behalf of the subscribers, the Portrait to Lord Dynevor, painted by Mr. Lucas; and to ascertain from his Lordship the time and manner that may be agreeable to him to receive it.

Sir John Mansel then presented the Portrait, after an eloquent address; and Lord Dynevor, who was visibly affected, thanked the company for the gift; which, he added, he would place beside the portrait of his late father, alike presented to him by subscription, and painted by the artist of the present picture.

A vote of thanks to Sir John Mansel was then proposed by the Earl of Cawdor, seconded by Mr. David Jones, M.P., and carried unanimously. Sir John Mansel returned thanks, and the proceedings terminated.



THE MUSIC-ROOM, IN THE PAVILION, BRIGHTON.—(SEE PAGE 70.)



## LADY MORGAN.

FEW of the literary characters of the present age can boast of a more uninterrupted popularity, or of a more constant prosperity, than the amiable lady whose portrait graces this day the columns of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

We understand that Lady Morgan is now collecting, out of her diaries and extensive correspondence, materials for a full account of her "Life and Times." As the autobiography of a lady who has been so long and so prominently before the world, with whom the most distinguished personages of this and other countries have at all times courted acquaintance and intimacy, will prove to be little less than the revelation of the life behind the scenes of a whole generation, we deem it expedient to refrain from any crude sketch or memoir of our own which we might only, at the utmost, either gather up from the *viva voce* of some of Lady Morgan's friends, or pick out of the many party and calumnious attacks or silly rhapsodies which have appeared in reviews, cyclopedias, lexicons, &c., in which the name of her Ladyship has been taken in vain; and in one of which (the "Universal Lexikon of Leipzig"), amongst other such pleasantries, it is gravely stated that "Lady Morgan, in a fit of disappointed love, put an end to her life by the aid of her own cambric pocket-handkerchief."

It has been said thus that Lady Morgan is to be numbered amongst self-educated geniuses. But that her education was sedulously attended to from her earliest years is proved by her knowledge of foreign languages, and early acquaintance with English classical literature, apparent, to the very verge of pedantry, in her first works; and her musical attainments, like those of her late sister, Lady Clarke (whose compositions were so popular in her native country some years back), were sufficiently attractive to render the author of "Kate Kearney" and other Irish melodies (which Moore acknowledged to excel his) an attraction in Dublin society from her childhood.

Though Ireland was, to use a phrase of her own, Lady Morgan's first "inspiration and her theme," and Catholic Emancipation the motive which inspired her national novels, and obtained her considerable popularity in Irish society, still Lady Morgan may be said to have begun her more brilliant social career in the *salons* of the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercorn, with whom she frequently resided, both in England and Ireland, to the time of her marriage under their roof with Sir Charles Morgan. "The Missionary" was written, we understand, amidst all the gay bustle of that centre of politics and fashion, Stanmore Priory, and was sold to Stockdale, Pall-mall, in the study of Lord Castlereagh, then Prime Minister, who accompanied the young authoress to town, with the good natured intent of aiding her in the bargain with the bibliopoliist. Many grave statesmen listened to her reading out that more than romantic tale of the "Missionary" chapter by chapter, as she wrote it, for the amusement of the most fastidious circle in Europe; for among the guests were Lord Aberdeen, Lord Castlereagh, Lord Ripon, Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Devonshire, and, on some occasions, her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, the Duc de Berri, and the ex-King of Sweden. Lady Morgan's anecdotes of this brilliant epoch of her varied life were told with a gracefulness and *tact* always favourable to the illustrious persons with whom she was then associated, and, if she much extenuate, "she set down nought in malice."

For the rest, only few of Lady Morgan's intimate friends know enough



SYDNEY, LADY MORGAN, AUTHORESS OF "THE WILD IRISH GIRL."

of her early history, notwithstanding the great *naïveté* and expressiveness with which her Ladyship is ever ready to allude to it in the warmth of genial intercourse. Her contemporaries have seen her sparkling forth at the very earliest period of her girlhood with a fertility, versatility, and at the same time strength and maturity of genius, perfectly unequalled by any of her age or sex. Gifted with a fervid imagination, with exuberant powers of invention, with an astonishing command of language, she possessed also in an eminent degree that faculty which ungallant critics are fain to deny to the ladies of the creation—humour—genuine, golden, inexhaustible—and even rollicking Irish humour—and a few chapters of "O'Donnell" have made us cry with tears of laughter, such as—be it said with due reverence—even Dickens or Thackeray has not often elicited from our eyes.

Notwithstanding her strong juvenile patriotism, her knowledge of Irish life, and her innate relish of Irish fun, Lady Morgan seems to us, however, to be quite at home in the more elevated, colder, and more

rigid sphere of English fashionable life. No writer, in our opinion, ever hit off the Lords and Ladies of the Almack's of that day with a vein of humour happier than the "Wild Irish Girl" whose genius of country brought amongst them; and it is no slight proof both of the fair and impartial generalisation with which she chose her characters, and of the inoffensive though piquant style of her portraiture, that the caricatures in which so many of her best friends might have recognised some of their traits never were received as personalities, never were known to give offence, never diminished by one member the happy circle which loved to crowd round the gifted artist.

If we apply to Lady Morgan the appellation of the *doyenne* of our lady-writers now living, we hope we shall be guilty of no invidious reflection upon the lady's number of years. She has certainly lived at least three lives, but they were three existences—literary, domestic, and social—blended into one; as her literary career never interfered with her domestic happiness, and her domestic circle was only the centre of a social intercourse, of which she was the soul and life. Time was when the reading world looked out for one of Lady Morgan's novels at Colburn's as one of the necessities of life; and there are now many a wit, statesman, scholar, and man of science who would as soon omit to answer the muster-call of one of Lady Morgan's pleasant *réunions*, as in the good old days of French society Voltaires and Larochefoucaults would have thought of deserting the *ruelle* of the Hôtel de Rambouillet or the *Carnavalet*.

Like Sydney Smith, whose Christian name, by a strange coincidence, her Ladyship bears, Lady Morgan will be even more renowned by her sayings than by her writings. It is in conversation especially that she excels: it is by that power chiefly that she has obtained, and maintains, so great a hold of that stately, but staid, unastonishable, un-amusable set of people which goes by the name of the "fashionable circle." Her unbounded, unfading, unfailing freshness of memory—her liveliness of description, her inexhaustible wealth of anecdote, the readiness of repartee, the variety of humour, the pliability of wit, the occasional richness and *abandon* of fun, the great faculty of adjusting herself to all moods, of drawing out all minds, the sovereign gift of making everybody pleased with himself, pleased with everybody else, and, above all things, pleased with the amiable *raconteuse* herself;—such is the charm which makes Lady Morgan's boudoir the pleasantest afternoon or evening rendezvous of London to all who have privilege of admission. From the year 1820 to 1855 Lady Morgan has intimately known every person of note either in London, in Paris, or in the most conspicuous cities of Italy. Her house is a repository of works of art, autographs, and other memorials, such as has seldom been revealed to the world; and we can well understand the eagerness of the many who are pressing her Ladyship to let the imprisoned thoughts and feelings of so many great characters into the light of day to which they belong. But, when all has been said on her moral courage, great domestic worth, the high and self-earned social position and bright gifts by which Lady Morgan was by nature endowed, it

must be owned that it is on the sincerity and fidelity of her friendship that she must lay her greatest claims to the world's respect and regard. There is, we confidently assert, no instance of any of Lady Morgan's friends or acquaintances being at any time set aside, disregarded, or overlooked. The memory of the heart is with her particularly strong and retentive. However intended to shine in wide circles, Lady Morgan—we appeal to the testimony of all who know her—is never so engaging as *en petite comité*: however gracefully at ease amongst the highest, however all alive amongst the brightest, she is, nevertheless, never so perfectly at home as amongst her friends. Her wit and humour are never so irresistible as when blended with natural and generous outbursts of feeling. We are under no apprehension of offending her Ladyship if we say frankly that her heart is better than her head—that, though her intellect is decidedly masculine in its extent and depth, yet what we most value and cherish in her is the perfect feminineness of her tastes, impulses, and affections.



NEW PICTURE IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—"CHRIST DRIVING THE MONEY-CHANGERS OUT OF THE TEMPLE." PAINTED BY BASSANO.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



## THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—"CHRIST DRIVING THE MONEY-CHANGERS OUT OF THE TEMPLE." BY BASSANO.

GIACOMO DA PONTE (born 1510, died 1592), better known as Il Bassano, from the place of his birth, was an artist endowed with many natural gifts, which, however, he improved capriciously. He had but little tuition—first from his father, an artist of moderate powers, and afterwards from Bonifacio, a second-rate master of the Venetian school, whose works Fuseli, in his lectures, complains are sometimes made to pass for Titian's by dishonest dealers. He is also said to have had the advantage for a time of studying under Titian himself; but of this we are not positive. Certain it is, however, that Bassano, in his earlier manner, aimed at imitating the grand colouring of this great master; whilst in composition he emulated the graces—undoubtedly somewhat artificial and mannered—of Parmigiano. At this period he produced some historical works in the grand style, amongst others of which are instances the "Flight into Egypt," and a "Nativity," painted for the church of St. Giralmo; and a fresco of "Sampson Slaying the Philistines." The works, however, by which the artist is known in this country, and indeed to which he chiefly devoted himself during the greater portion of his life, are of an altogether different character; and, if less ambitious than those we have mentioned, evince a style more peculiarly his own—a style in which the faithful and pleasing treatment of natural objects was associated with the representation of known passages in Scripture or profane history. It appears that this change was wrought in him on returning to his native place on the death of his father, when he was yet a young man, and when he was so pleased with the charms of landscape scenery, of animal life, and rustic occupations, that from that moment he rarely willingly painted anything else—the story chosen for illustration being often only a secondary consideration with him. He did not often attempt the naked figure; on the contrary, his daughters, who usually sat for his Magdalenes, Madonnas, his Hebrew matrons, and his peasant girls, are always seen fully draped, generally rather heavily so, and sometimes incongruously; and it is remarked that their feet are never seen. He painted with great rapidity, for gain; and his works, which are abundant, generally attained the point of respectability—never that of excellence, in the highest sense of the word. In the picture before us, which was presented to the National Gallery by Philip L. Hinds, Esq., we have a fair sample of his powers and his peculiar predilections. Amidst the confused crowd of money-brokers, cattle, dogs, and dealers in live-stock, we recognise none of those sublimer attributes usually aimed at in the treatment of sacred subjects.

We cannot conclude our notice of this picture without animadverting upon the taste and judgment of the "Hanging Committee" of the National Gallery, in assigning it a place of prominence which neither on account of the artist or its individual merits, it was entitled to. It would hardly be believed that to this picture the post of honour has been given—at the upper end of the principal room; beneath it being suspended Raphael's "Portrait of Pope Julius II." and Titian's "Christ and St. Peter," side by side—a most incongruous assortment (save perhaps in historical associations between his Holiness and his Apostolic predecessor); and that, to effect this arrangement, the magnificent "Raising of Lazarus," by Sebastian Del Piombo—perhaps on all accounts the most valuable picture in the country—has been removed from the place it so well filled to another most inferior position, in the corner of the opposite wall, which is broken by the entrance-door, with Tintoretto's "St. George and the Dragon" by its side, its sole companion. This arrangement is so bad in every respect that we really are at a loss to account for it, or to characterize the feeling or judgment which directed it in the language it deserves. We hope that on the first opportunity for a move this matter will be redressed, and Del Piombo's masterpiece restored to its place of honour.

## THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

ARCHITECTURAL subjects would, to the ordinary observer, appear to present the fewest difficulties and the greatest uniformity of treatment by the photographer. The pictorial aspect of a stone wall or tower would seem unchangeable; and so, perhaps, it would be were there no such thing as chiaroscuro. The artist-photographer, however, knows that in sunshine the play of light and shade, constantly varying, imparts to the simplest object a Protean character, and the picturesque may be found better in the sun, fog, or in the evening, and he will carefully watch for the fit hour. In the studies under notice we see that one artist affects extreme sharpness of outline, as in "Rivaux Abbey" (No. 284), and in "West Front of Peterborough Cathedral" (No. 335). Another studies boldness and breadth, as in "Canterbury Cathedral" (No. 36), by V. A. Prout, whose productions constantly remind us of the drawings of his illustrious namesake. In this section of the art the works of Mr. Bedford appear to us most completely to satisfy the requirements of art. It is scarcely possible to conceive anything more beautiful than this artist's views of Canterbury Cathedral (Nos. 152, 183, 203, and especially Nos. 467 and 499). We are inclined to place Mr. Bedford first in the rank of artist-photographers. In the selection and treatment of subjects his taste is always refined, and their execution, especially in colour, unexceptionable. We may refer for confirmation of our opinion to his "Studies from the Studio" (No. 128) and "More Gleanings from my Portfolio" (No. 356).

Messrs. Dalmore and Bullock have attacked Kenilworth Castle, and returned with magnificent spoils. We greatly admire the breadth of treatment which characterises their "Caesar's Tower" (No. 43) and "Leicester Gateway" (No. 45). We may also notice, as something remarkable for clearness of atmosphere and sharpness of outline, the "Views in Paris" (Nos. 349 and 369) taken by Mr. C. Thurston Thompson. The views of Mr. Archer are also worthy of attentive examination. Mr. Buckle still haunts Peterborough Cathedral, but he does not appear to keep pace with the progress of his art. His subjects, however good in themselves, are not so well printed as they might be, and consequently he shows to disadvantage. Mr. H. Fox Talbot contributes two interesting views, inasmuch as they were printed in 1844, and have stood the test of time upwards of eleven years, sufficient to quiet the fears of those who are constantly croaking about the fading of photographs.

We will now consider the portraits, which probably constitute the severest test of a photographer's skill and taste. Conspicuous in subjects are those by Mr. Mayall, Nos. 337, 338, and 339, which are portraits of "Sidney Herbert," "Lord John Russell," and the late "Sir William Molesworth." The first is the most successful; but that of Lord John, being taken on too large a scale, fails in giving a correct notion of the original. It would lead one to expect a person of athletic proportions, such as is well known, the honourable subject does not possess. Nos. 371, 372, and 373, also by Mr. Mayall, being portraits of "Sir George Grey," the "Earl of Aberdeen," and "Sir George Cornwall Lewis," are truly excellent and satisfactory in every respect.

A very striking portrait picture is that of "Prince Napoleon" (No. 213), by Mr. Roger Fenton: the resemblance to the "great uncle" is quite startling. Mr. Fenton exhibits many excellent specimens of portraiture, among which we may instance that of "Sir Colin Campbell" (No. 195). His other productions possess much interest—"Cuneiform Inscriptions from Nineveh" (No. 201), and a frame of four subjects of antiquities (No. 210). Mr. Delamotte exhibits a "Portrait of the Rev. J. R. Major," which possesses remarkable excellence; the pose is natural and unconstrained, and the picture full of character.

On the edge of the second screen are two unnumbered portraits, but which we at once recognise to be the productions of Mr. Hennah: they possess all those excellent qualities for which his portraits have been esteemed.

Mr. Rejlander's portraits are admirable in pose and carefully studied: they form in many cases good pictures, as well as portraits. Nos. 120, 151, 279, and 293, are most excellent.

There are also good specimens of this branch of the art by Messrs. Newcombe and Quin, Barber and Mark, Horne and Thornthwaite, J. Watson and Co., Sharp and Melville.

Mrs. Verschyle exhibits a frame of portraits (No. 426) of remarkable excellence. Of the coloured portraits we give the preference to those by H. Loeke, for their evident truthfulness and general harmony of treatment.

There are two remarkable studies from life (No. 406 and 407) by T. R. Williams, which may be truly called Rembrandtish. The portrait studies of Dr. Diamond are remarkably good.

In subjects from "still life" we remark some studies of dead game—Nos. 50 and 52, by V. A. Prout; and No. 410, by Dr. Diamond—all excellent. The studies of shells do not appear so successful as they might be; and those of flowers utterly fail from the unsuitable backgrounds the lights in the subjects are too much lost.

Mr. C. Thurston Thompson has contributed a very good study of a landscape, "The Valley of the River," No. 349, and another of a similar kind, "The Valley of the River," No. 369.

The photographic exhibitions at the present time in London may be taken as a significant fact of the wide-spread interest taken in the art, which must have a powerful influence in the education of the taste both of the public and the artists. Accustomed to the fidelity of the photograph, to its breadth and detail, and precision of outline, the

public will gradually be led to regard accuracy of form as well as brilliancy of colour in the productions of the easel. Artists must look to this in time, else the public will soon become, as it is fast becoming, far in advance of them, and the demand for high art when it comes will not be met. We regret to see in the catalogue of this Exhibition the introduction of sentimental puerilities in the titles given to subjects. Photography is a truthful art *par excellence*, and its disciples should leave the punning and marvellous titles to those who have hitherto revelled in them—the small fry of ill-conditioned daubers. What we want in art is truth and elevation of ideas: these are not to be attained by lame puns and bad rhymes.

## THE CURRENCY QUESTION THE BANK CHARTER.—No. II.

GOVERNMENT NOTES, ALTHOUGH NOT CONVERTIBLE INTO GOLD ON DEMAND, PROVED TO BE CONVERTIBLE AT A FIXED VALUE, INTO EVERY ARTICLE ITS POSSESSOR REQUIRED, INCLUDING GOLD, AT THE MARKET PRICE.

**Ex-M.P.:** We have made some progress by showing that a Government note could not possibly be depreciated by over-issue; and, as it is not possible for such a note to be depreciated in any other way, it may be assumed as granted that its depreciation would be morally and practically impossible—but if any corroboration were wanting, it might be found in the fact that the Bank of England note from 1797 to 1819, although not convertible into gold on demand was never depreciated.

**Lord Overstone:** Not depreciated! when it requires one pound-note and seven shillings to purchase one guinea, which ought to have been purchased for one pound-note and one shilling!

**Ex-M.P.:** Assuredly the note was not depreciated: principally on account of hoarding in more turbulent times, and also in consequence of the war, gold had become very scarce—had therefore risen very much in value, and was appreciated—the note was not depreciated.

**Lord Overstone:** Surely it was in reference to gold?

**Ex-M.P.:** Do not let us dispute about words. If you go into the market and find wheat 44s. per quarter higher than the preceding week, you do not say your sovereign is depreciated because it will not buy so much wheat. The best proof that the note was not depreciated consists in the fact that, when it required one pound-note and 7s. to purchase a guinea, 26s. in silver would not have purchased one. Did your Lordship ever hear of bank-notes being offered for 19s.?

**Lord Overstone:** Certainly not. But you overlook the fact that gold was the standard of value, and the bank-note its representative for a certain specific amount in value and in weight. When it ceased to be the representative of that amount, it surely was depreciated.

**Ex-M.P.:** In other words, the Legislature attempted the impossibility of fixing the supply and demand for gold; and the demand being greater than the supply, its price increased, and the bank-note was therefore no longer the representative of the specific amount; so you passed a law abolishing its representative character for the amount in value, but rendering it a substitute for the same amount in quantity as a standard and measure of value.

**Lord Overstone:** I do not remember seeing the question put in that manner before: it was from this you got your notion of the Government note being a substitute for a certain quantity of gold. But really I do not see how you apply the events of 1797 to those of 1856.

**Ex-M.P.:** Indeed! If "history be philosophy teaching by example," surely nothing can be more important than what occurred in this country during twenty years, when the bank-note was the substitute for a certain quantity of gold as a standard of value between individuals, and gold itself an article of commerce like corn or cotton.

**Lord Overstone:** And proving the truth of my prediction, if we were again to have inconvertible notes, whether of the Government or of the Bank of England; namely, that every sovereign would leave the country, and we should never see the colour of gold.

**Ex-M.P.:** Take both sides of the question. When the demand was greater than the supply no doubt a guinea was a rare article, and was seldom seen; but when the supply was greater than the demand they came back, and gold was as plentiful in 1818, or rather far more so, than it was in 1796. How did it get back? and was the country better or worse in consequence of the dearth or scarcity of gold?

**Lord Overstone:** Surely a country must be badly off that has little gold.

**Ex-M.P.:** I cannot see that, and facts are, to my mind, better than opinion; and you cannot deny that, notwithstanding the enormous expenditure and waste of the war, commercial distress has been much more frequent and of greater intensity since the return to cash payments than during its restriction. The truth is this, and you know it—and the people are beginning to see it—your boasted convertibility into gold is a "myth," and the only question between us is one of detail, and not one of principle.

**Lord Overstone:** Assuredly I will never admit that the difference between a note convertible into gold on demand, and a note not so convertible, is merely one of detail.

**Ex-M.P.:** And you would be right if the fact were consistent with your statement; but you well know that last week the Bank had issued notes payable on demand to the amount of £24,421,180, and that all the gold coin and bullion in its coffers was only £9,946,180. Your Act of 1844 permits the deficiency, or, to use the proper term, insolvency, to the extent of nearly £14,475,000, and yet you have the assurance to insist upon the convertibility of the bank-note into gold on demand.

**Lord Overstone:** You are getting warm. Insolvency is a strong word.

**Ex-M.P.:** Strong or weak is of little importance compared to the truth. What would be your term for such a state when applied either to a company or to an individual who had claims against him payable on demand to the amount of £24,000, and only £10,000 to meet it?

**Lord Overstone:** That is a larger proportion of gold than any private bank would think of keeping.

**Ex-M.P.:** Undoubtedly; but all private banks issuing notes have resources by which they could immediately procure gold to pay all their notes; while all the Bank of England could do would be to run to the Government and exclaim, "Make me a bankrupt! for I am insolvent." A pretty situation for a commercial country to be subject to in consequence of following the myths of bullionists!

**Lord Overstone:** I do not see how you can call your principle a "myth," when it merely consists of the attempt to approach as nearly as possible to that which every one admits to be the perfection of a currency—namely, one that is purely metallic.

**Ex-M.P.:** Why that is another "myth"—one which never did exist; and which we may, therefore, conclude, never will. Can your Lordship point to any age or to any country where pure metallic currency ever existed; or, if it did, that it satisfied the wants of the community?

**Lord Overstone:** Admitting that there never has existed any such country, it does not follow that a pure metallic currency is not the perfection of currency; and, if so, surely we ought to endeavour to obtain such a blessing for this country.

**Ex-M.P.:** And ruin thousands of your industrious fellow-subjects in the pursuit of your "myth." I thought we had started by your admitting "that the best possible currency must be that which is least liable to fluctuation."

**Lord Overstone:** And I do not wish to withdraw the admission, but believe that a "pure metallic currency" would be less liable to fluctuation than any other.

**Ex-M.P.:** In quantity or quality?

**Lord Overstone:** In the latter certainly, and probably in the former also.

**Ex-M.P.:** Then you must assume one of two propositions—either of which would, I should think, choke a political economist. Either the price of gold would not be regulated by its supply and demand; or every other country in the world would have exactly the quantity it desired. On which horn would your Lordship impale your "myth"?

**Lord Overstone:** I do not see the dilemma. We may attempt to approach perfection as near as possible after we know we cannot attain it.

**Ex-M.P.:** Your Lordship is surely getting sleepy, or you would never forget that you are assuming as true that which I deny—viz., that a pure metallic currency is the best; for I believe such a currency to be a "myth," and such a currency as this, and that if ever it did exist it would be the most fluctuating of any currency. Of course, your Lordship repeats a tale of exchange of currency and deep sleep.

**Lord Overstone:** Of course.

**Ex-M.P.:** With such a foundation, how can you fancy your metallic currency to be any more than a "myth"? And if so, then it is as clear as daylight that two bank-four shilling paper notes only secured for the wants of such a country as this, could trade into gold on demand, as also a "myth," which we would, like the Cur of Japhet, not only be maintained by the Government, but of the credit of our friends and ourselves.

**Lord Overstone:** One of the leading features of my Act of 1844 was to give due notice to all of the impending danger.

**Ex-M.P.:** Yes; and from which knowledge the rich alone could profit. Your Act has made cheap money cheaper, and dear money dearer: when cheap, it has encouraged every system of profligate speculation; when dear, it has prevented the honest industry of the country receiving the usual

accommodation in their legitimate business, causing the ruin of thousands. Remember, it is not I alone who say this, but a large section of bigoted bullionists.

**Lord Overstone:** I am well aware of this, and think they are far more unreasonable and illogical than you, and those who think with you respecting the advantages of a paper currency. Yours is a sound conclusion from premises which I consider unsound; theirs is an unsound conclusion from premises in which they agree with me. With such illogical reasoners as they are I never could agree; with you I might, if you could convince me of the accuracy of your premises.

**Ex-M.P.:** So to convince you would be a miracle. You have for so many years been wedded to your system, and it has been so profitable to you, that you will not quit it except with life. But when you reflect on the distresses and the ruin which your system has brought upon your fellow creatures, I am not without hope, that you may some day seriously exclaim "Almost thou persuadest me to become a Christian."

## FASHIONS FOR JANUARY.

NOTWITHSTANDING the pressure of income-tax and high prices, there seems no abatement in the richness and costliness of ladies' attire. And yet, paradoxical as it may seem, this circumstance is no proof of want of thrift on the part of purchasers. The truth is, sensible people have found out that cheap may be dear and dear may be cheap, and that nothing is such extravagant wear as a showy fabric of poor quality. This opinion, always prevalent among the higher classes, has spread simultaneously with the improvement of taste through all grades of society; and one of the consequences is that, without on an average spending more money than formerly, women dress a great deal better than they did. Manufacturers, who are always prompting and observing the public wants, are, of course, ready with a supply to meet all demands; and, if they sell one rich dress in the place of two of inferior quality, they are no doubt equal gainers, while the wearer has, most probably, a triple advantage.

We have been led to these remarks by observing the substantial quality of the dresses for this season, and the exquisite taste of their designs, which are, in many instances, so beautiful that we cannot fancy any weariness or desire for change to arrive in connection with them.

One of the greatest novelties we have seen is a rich silk, of that peculiar shade of green called *vert d'Isly*, with three deep flounces. Each flounce has, interwoven with the silk, a broad band of black velvet, and at the edge of this band an interweaving of black upon the green, which exactly represents a fall of black lace with its natural folds and involutions—the velvet band and lace being together nearly a quarter deep. Jacket to correspond, for which the woven trimming is of course provided.

There is a black silk dress with five flounces, each flounce being edged with a violet or cerise satin brocade; this coloured brocade being spotted with black velvet. The jacket may be trimmed with knotted and tasselled fringe to correspond or with velvet or lace.

There is another black silk, the flounces of which are edged with a satin brocade, spotted with bright colours.

A brown silk, with a rich flower pattern of black and brown brocade at the edge of the flounces, is in very good taste.

A blue silk, with horizontal stripes of white and blue satin brocade on the flounces, is also very pretty.

For more matronly wearers we may notice a rich silk of dark blue, barred crossways with black satin, and between the trillies thus formed a diamond of black satin shades off into the blue. A *moiré antique*, with brocade stripes five or six inches wide, is also a novelty. And we may mention *en passant* that there is likely to be a revival of plain satins, so long out of vogue, thanks to their being approved by the Empress of the French. Velvets are, of course, much worn during the winter season; and blonde, intermixed with narrow black velvet, is often a substitute for lace. Under-sleeves of tulle and blonde, made with full puffings, are most in favour; and they generally have loops, or ends of velvet, or ribbon, between the puffings. Another very pretty sleeve is composed of several rows of lace of a graduated width.

Mantles are generally of velvet or cloth. There is a very elegant one of black velvet, ornamented with a broad band of *moiré antique*, laid on with an edging of gimp. Another of black velvet has no trimming whatever, except five or six rich tassels, which, from the peculiar shape of the mantle, and their skillful arrangement, hang with much grace.

There is a grey cloth mantle trimmed with grey *moiré antique* and velvet, and lined with stamped brown cloth; so that it is adapted to be worn on either side. Another of grey plush is ornamented with fringe and stamped black velvet, and is lined with red cloth.

A paletot of brown cloth, wadded, and made with pockets, is calculated for travelling in severe weather.

We are happy to say that bonnets are no longer worn absurdly at the back of the head. It is true they are still small and coquettish; but our readers may depend that it has long ceased to be good taste to leave the crown of the head exposed—a fashion that was absolutely dangerous at all seasons, since severe headaches from exposure to the sun, and neuralgic colds in the winter, have in numerous instances attested the folly of the fashion.

The mixture of black and coloured velvet seems a favourite style for bonnets this winter. There is one of black and purple velvet, with a black feather, the bird of paradise form, which is very elegant.

There is also a black velvet bonnet, trimmed with a feather and a rich ribbon, partly black, and partly a chevron pattern, which, mixed with black lace, has a novel and rich effect. Inside there is on one side a bunch of flowers to correspond with the ribbon, and on the other a tuft of black lace.

Another very pretty bonnet is of violet satin and black velvet, with white flowers and violet velvet leaves inside.

Some of the bonnets have a fall of black lace, several inches deep, which passes round the curtain.

A stone-colour terry velvet bonnet is intermixed with claret-colour velvet, and has a triple fall of black lace at the back. Inside is a full blonde cap, with flowers of stone colour and claret velvet.

For attendance at a wedding in the winter season is a bonnet of white terry velvet, having a curtain edged with deep white fringe, and a white feather on one side. White roses inside.

For demi-toilet caps the mixture of black and white lace still prevails. A very pretty cap of this description is trimmed with blue ribbon and pink roses, and has long ends of blue ribbon and black lappets.

Another has a foundation of black tulle, nearly covered with white blonde, and a trimming of vine-leaves and grapes, and narrow ribbon where the black and white lace unite.

There is a head dress of white blonde with pink flowers and a water-lily; and black or coloured velvet with gold is often adopted. We may remark that the coiffures are worn more at the top of the head than heretofore.

We propose finally to give a full description of evening dresses; meanwhile we may mention two or three which are novel and becoming:—

A pink silk, the edge of which is nearly covered with a lattice formed of two rows of black lace, edged with a feather fringe, the short sleeves being ornamented to correspond. The skirt is covered half-way down by a flounce of blonde set in at the waist, and below this flounce are three rows of black lace, all four being edged with the feather fringe.

A blue silk dress with a deep border of black lace, two fulls of the same entirely covering the short sleeves. The skirt has three deep flounces of black lace; and these, as well as the border and lace on the sleeves, are all of a width with narrow black velvet, the lace terminating at the top and bottom of the lace with little knots of velvet and fluting ends.

Another evening dress is of rich silk, with deep orange and square rows of black lace with pipings of ribbon forming a square, and another row passing across the shoulder.

Occasionally dresses, instead of having rich longitudinal trimmings, adopt a style of short puffs. Some of the new silks, indeed, are brocaded in this style, a flowering pattern, narrow at the waist, widening as it descends.

While mentioning evening dresses the *salon de nuit* must by no means be forgotten. They are made in a variety of materials—silk, of white satin, velvet; and in some with a head trimmed with fringe or lace, so arranged as to fall over the face, at a pleasing distance, as well as around the neck.

[For our information on Dress and Fashion we are indebted to the courtesy of Madame ARISTON LEROY, 74, Grafton-street, Grosvenor-square.]

PROFESSOR S. R. MONTANA. An attempted assassination on the person of the President of the United States, and the fact that the President was not killed, is a subject which has attracted much of the public attention. The President was shot by a man named John Wilkes Booth, who was a member of the Confederate army. The President was shot on the 14th of April, 1865, while he was in the theatre. The President was shot in the back of the head, and he died of his wounds on the 15th of April, 1865. The President was shot by a man named John Wilkes Booth, who was a member of the Confederate army. The President was shot on the 14th of April, 1865, while he was in the theatre. The President was shot in the back of the head, and he died of his wounds on the 15th of April, 1865. The President was shot by a man named John Wilkes Booth, who was a member of the Confederate army. The President was shot on the 14th of April, 1865, while he was in the theatre. The President was shot in the back of the head, and he died of his wounds on the 15th of April, 1865.



## Memorabilia,

LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND ARTISTIC.

"A little think may let in much light."—OLD PROVERB.

CUPS AND SPOONS,

PRESENTED TO CHRIST'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, BY THE FOUNDRESS.



Of these beautiful cups presented to Christ's College, Cambridge, by the foundress, Margaret Beaufort, and now preserved among the treasures of that College, the "Cambridge Portfolio" gives the following description:—"The foundress' cups are silver gilt, and possess singular elegance of form: one, a quart, 6 inches in diameter and standing 12½ inches; the other, a pint, 5 inches in diameter, and standing 9 inches. The spoons, six in number, called after the foundress, and said to have been presented to her by her godmother, must be noticed as curiosities. The bowl is of the old spoon-bill form, and all is quite plain, except that the handle terminates in the figure of one of the Apostles. There are three salts, the simplicity of which accords with their antiquity. They stand 9½ inches and 2½ inches, and have diameter 6 inches: their mass is great, but their capacity is very small, and their shape the most inconvenient that could be devised."

## NOTES.

**INSCRIPTION BY BEN JONSON.**—Some years since I saw in the possession of a friend a copy of Ben Jonson's "Sejanus his Fall &c., Act London, printed by G. Eld for Thomas Thorpe, 1605." It was a remarkably fine large paper copy, and on a blank leaf at the beginning was the following inscription, written in "Rare Ben's" exquisitely neat autograph:—

To my perfect Friend, Mr.  
Francis Crane,  
I erect this altar  
of Friendship,  
and leave it as the eternal  
witness of my Love.  
Ben Jonson. EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

**THE "FOUR POINTS" OF OLD.**—Bayle records it as a joke current in his time, that "pendant que les François font bonne chère sur les bords du Rhin, ou les Turcs dans la Hongrie, les Allemands font diable à Ratisbonne;" i.e., while the French make good cheer on the banks of the Rhine, and the Turks in Hungary, the Germans make a Diet at Ratisbon.—BERN.

**ALPHABETICAL BANQUETS—OSTENTATIOUS PRODIGALITY.**—The following extract is taken from a Black-letter work, entitled "Certaine Secrete Wonders of Nature—containing a description of sundry strange things, seeming monstrous in our eyes and judgment, because we are not prius to the reasons of them. Gathered out of diuers learned authors, as well Greekes as Latine, sacred as prophane. By E. Fenton. Apres fortune espoir. Imprinted at London by Henry Binnemen, dwelling in Knight-riders-street, at the signe of the Mermaid. Anno 1569." After giving an account of Cleopatra dissolving a large pearl, at the banquet she gave to Antony, the chapter thus proceeds:—"And yet was this prodigality little or nothing in respect of the magnificent pompe which the Emperor Gaeta used in his publicke banquettes: for he caused himself to be served at the borde with diuerse of meates, as fische and fleshe, in the order of the Alphabet, for all foule and fische that he could recover that began with A, he caused to be set on his table as a firste service, as Anstriges and such other, practising the like in the seconde course with B, as Bostarde, Bitter, and such lyke, the same not fayling to come immediately after y<sup>e</sup> first service was taken away; and so consequently every letter was honored with a service till the whole Alphabet was performed, having in deede Cookes and Caters appointed for that purpose only. But what staunde we so longe in the searche of faine prodigalities in banquettes, seeing (amongst a number of others) our time hath stirred up a monstrous example that waye, in Auignon, at such time as mine author studied the lawe vnder Emilius Furretus, in whose time there was a Prelate stranger, whose name I will conuele, as well for the honour of his profession as to muche superstition in himself, who one daye invited to a banquette the nobilitie of Auignon, as well men as women, where, for a firste beginninge of his pompe, at the very entrie into the halle where the banquette was appointed, laye spread vpon a curious borde a greste beefe with his heade pulled off, and purged in his intrailles, having in his bellie a whole harte or deuie of the like dressing, stuffe full of little birdes, as Quailles, Partridges, Larkes, Fasanets, and other lyke, the same being so eueningly inclosed in the bellie of the seconde beeste, and they so artificially conuoyed ye one within the other, that it seemed some excellent Mathematician had bene the workman thereof. But that which made the matter both straunge and wonderfull was that all the birdes so assembled did roose and turne all alone vpon a broche by certayne compass and conduites without the ayde of any men: For the firste course and order of the table, his gastes were presented with store of curious pastrie, wherein were wrought and inclosed manye little birdes quicke, who, as soon as they cruste was taken off, began to flie about the hall: there were besides sundrie sortes of silver plate, full of jellie so subtilly conueighed, that a man might haue seen in the bottom of a little fishes quicke, swimming and leaping in sweete water and muske, to the greste delite and pleasure of the assistants: neither is it lesse straunge that all the foules which were serued vpon the table were larded with Lampraye, albeit it was in a season when they cost half a crowne a piece: but that which seales up the superstitions pompe of this proude Prelate, was, that there was reserved as many quicke birdes, as he was serued with deade foules, at his table, the same contayninge such indifferet number that if there were a Fasanet sent dressed to the borde, there were gentlemen (appointed for the purpose) which presented another aline, and al to shewe the magnificence of the Prieste, to whom what remains for the consumption of his prodigall delites, but that the Gentlemen which serued him had their faces covered with a vaille leaste their breathe should offende either him or his meate." Who the "proude Prelate" was that gave the above sumptuous feast to the "nobilitie" of Auignon perhaps some of our readers can tell. Fenton says it occurred in "our times"—that is about 1569.

**CUNGLETON CORPORATION.**—I may mention that there is in the custody of this body a Bible, to which there is attached a somewhat singular legend. The Bible is of the edition commonly called the "Breeches Bible," and is in excellent preservation. The legend is that it originally belonged to one of the churches in the town, and was pawned with the present possessors by the clerk, who was also barward of the township, to enable him to provide a bear to be baited according to custom at the wakes.—CESTRISIENSIS.

**"AS YOU WERE."**—In London, Euphues says, "are all things that may either please the sight or dislike the smell; either feed the eye with delight, or fill the nose with infection."—BERN.

**"THERE IS A LAKE ABOUT ARMACH, IN IRELAND, INTO WHICH, IF ONE THRUST A PIECE OF WOOD, HE SHALL FIND THAT PART WHICH REMAINETH IN THE MUD, CONVERTED TO IRON, AND THAT WHICH CONTINUETH IN THE WATER TURNED TO STONE."**

**WHOLESALE POISONING AND THE REASON WHY.**—In the correspondence of Addison, to which large additions have been made in Bohn's edition of Addison's works, there is an extraordinary case of poisoning, related by Mr Fleetwood, the English consul at Naples. Under the date of June 11th, 1717, Fleetwood writes to Secretary Addison that three Neapolitan women, one of them a nun, had the previous week been hanged for making and selling a poisonous water, called *acqua tufania*, by which above 600 persons were poisoned. "They pretended," says Fleetwood, "religion and conscience to keep the world in ease and quiet, by giving the husband means to rid himself of his wife, the father of a disobedient son, a man of his enemy, &c." This is, certainly, one of the most remarkable "cases of conscience" upon record. For an account of Tophania and the "Slow Poisoners" of England, Italy, and France, see Dr. Mackay's interesting work "Memoirs of Popular Poisons."

## "OH, MISTRESS, MINE."

FROM SHAKESPEARE'S "TWELFTH NIGHT."

This charming melody, for which we are sure to receive the thanks of our musical readers, is contained in both the editions of Morley's "Consort Lessons," 1599 and 1611, and is found also in Queen Elizabeth's Virginal Book, arranged by Byrd. Being found in print so early as 1599, it proves either that Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" was written in or before that year, or that, in accordance with the then prevailing custom, "O, Mistress, Mine," was an old song introduced into the play.

\* See Chappell's valuable work now in course of publication, called "Popular Music of the Olden Time, a collection of Ancient Songs, Ballads, and Dance Tunes, illustrative of the National Music of England," &c. London: Cramer, Beale, and Chappell.

Mr. Payne Collier has proved upon the authority of a small MSS. diary of a student of the Middle Temple, extending from 1601 to 1603, now in the British Museum, that the play was publicly performed on the 2nd February, 1602, at the Candlemas Feast of the Middle Temple, but there is no evidence to show it was known so early as 1599.

In act ii, sc. 3, the Clown asks:—

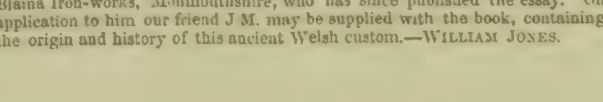
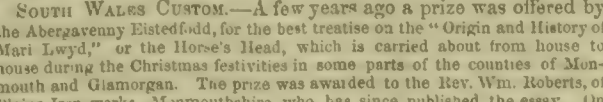
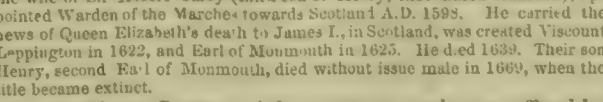
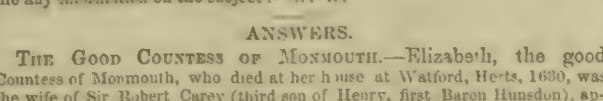
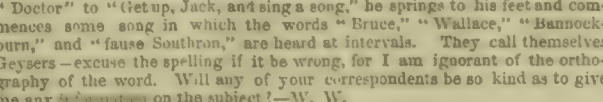
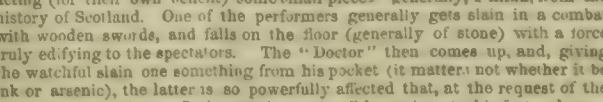
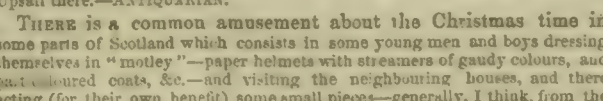
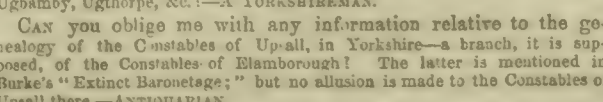
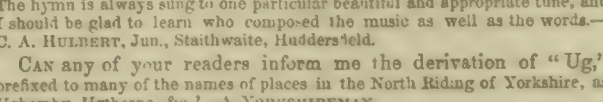
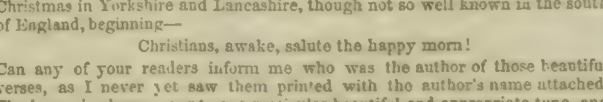
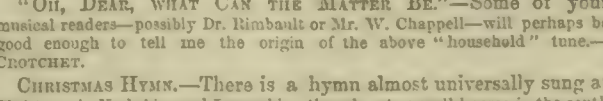
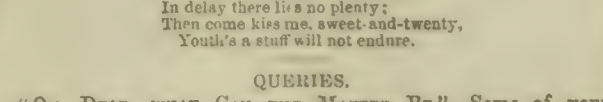
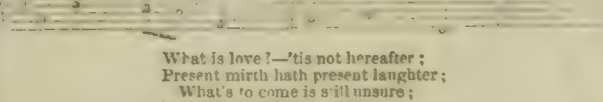
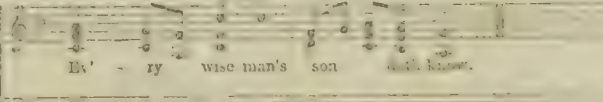
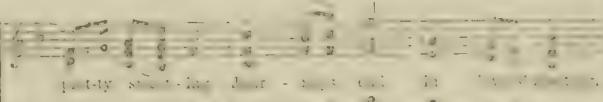
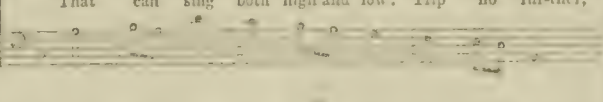
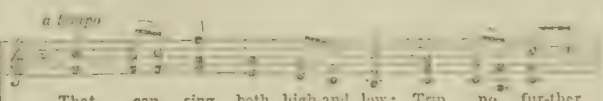
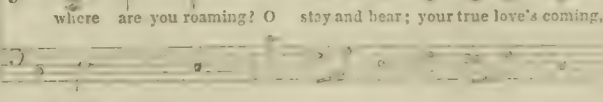
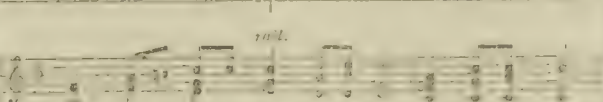
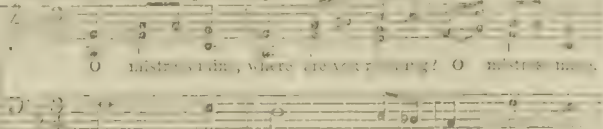
"Would you have a love song, or a song of good life?"

Sir Toby: A love song, a love song.

Sir Andrew: Ay, ay; I care not for good life.

OH, MISTRESS, MINE.

Moderate time and very smoothly.



**A DEVONSHIRE CUSTOM.**—Four and a half miles from Combmartin, is a cove called "The Rapparee (Irish rebel), Cove." Against the cliff, at the north-east angle of this cove, just out of the reach of the flood tides, and scarcely below the surface of the earth, are an immense number of human bones, the bodies appearing to be thrown there indiscriminately, not buried. Is it possible that when O'Donnell the R-d, Chief of Tircconnell, and son-in-law to the rebel Earl of Tyrone, fled from Ireland (1602), he, or some of his followers, instead of reaching Spain, landed at this cove? and that many of them being here killed, others concealed themselves and were hunted by the country people in the woods between Berrynarbour and Combmartin? If such an event took place it must have been in the time of the Devon historians, Pole, Risdon, and Westcote—the last of whom possessed by marriage property in Combmartin and Berrynarbour. They do not, however, even mention the custom spoken of by H. S. P. In what year was it discontinued?—V.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**A. B. COOK—THE SHAKESPEARE FORGERIES.**—That those notorious fabrications were the work of W. Ireland we never before heard questioned. They are kept in the MSS. department of the British Museum, and we have lately seen a detailed account in Ireland's hand of the whole process of their execution, which he presented to a friend shortly after the monstrous avowal was exposed.

**CORONARIUS,** Perigmarior, M. E. D., Bedford: E. P., A. E. R., P. P., Ivy.—Such inquiries do not come within the scope and purpose of our "Memorabilia."

**CHAPMAN,** E. Deacon, J., Stonehouse, W. H. F., W. A. J., Panton, C. R. W., J. W. Taylor, S. Jessington, Ardell, Paulus Emilius, X. Y. Z., A. Constant Subscribent, D. P., J. C. Barrett, V. G., New York, A. Choudhri, A. Leicest.shire Clergyman, Oxoniensis, Worcester Coll., L. S., D. C. L., Cambridge, Courtney Reed—Received.

**J. S.**—The same works, we believe.

**HOTSPUR.**—You must be mistaken. The cricket has nothing to do with the superstition in question.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**PHILO-CHESS,** D. G., F. P.—The new series of the French Chess Magazine, under the editorial control of MM. de Riviere and the leading supporters of the game in Paris, was announced to appear on the 15th inst. We have not yet received the opening number, but, from our experience of the conductors, we have no hesitation in predicting that this new and elegant publication will secure the patronage of all the most respectable and intelligent of the Chess fraternity, both in France and England. In answer to your inquiries and those of other correspondents respecting the annual subscription, we can only recommend an application to Messrs. Williams and Norgate, foreign booksellers, CAROLUS, Dundee.—It admits of two solutions.

**W. G. Whitty:** H. T., and others.—The best plan by far in preparing diagrams of Chess problems is to write in black ink the initials of the rook, thus: for White Kt—W K; for Black Queen—B Q &c. All representations of the pieces lead to mistake; besides they take up a great deal of time for no good purpose.

**LANCASHIRE.**—The two leading players of the Manchester Chess Club Messrs. Owen and Kipping, are so equally matched that it would be invidious to express the opinion you ask for. They have played together now a great number of parties, and there is only the difference of a game or two in the score.

**STARKE FITZPATRICK.**—The solution of Diagram No. 15, in the Chess Player's Handbook, is accomplished in this wise:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K B 8th (ch)	R takes R	2. Kt to K Kt 6th (ch)	
		(If Black now take the Kt, then the Pawn takes Pawn, discovering check, and Black must take Queen with Queen, thus placing White under a stale-mate. If Black does not take the Kt but moves his King, then follow—)	
3. Kt takes K P (ch)	K moves	4. Kt to Kt 6th (ch), &c., giving perpetual check.	

**T. M. G. Dwyer.**—There is a Chess Club at Folkestone under the presidency of Captain Hathorne, R.N., which meets at the Harbour House. An application to the President will doubtless obtain you admission on one of the evenings of play.

**JAMES F. C.**—It will have a contest.

**Capt. R. G. Gaspot, M. P., W. C. T., and others.**—The solution given in our last as of Problem 619 is that of 618. The true solution of 619 is this:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K Kt 8th	P moves	4. P to K 4th	K takes P
2. B to K R 7th	P to K Kt 3d or (n)	5. R takes P (disc. ch)—	
3. R takes B	K takes Kt	Mate	

(a) 2. R to Kt 6th P to K Kt 4th K takes Kt

4. R to R 6th—Mate

**TECHNICAL.**—Both correct, but received too late for acknowledgment in the customary list.

**HIGHFIELD.**—Yes; under those circumstances the game must be considered drawn.

**S. G. N. W. N. W.**—A smart little game on the attacking side, but the defence is so extremely feeble that the victory yields no glory.

**RETINAL GREEN; H. W. Clifton.**—Too easy, we are sorry to say. Try again.

**CHIEF OF RUTH.**—One is indifferent, the other impracticable. In future it will be well to number your diagrams.

**SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 613.** by W. W., M. P., Major G. Gregory, Mus. Doc., Old Salt, M. L. S. D., Templar, Little Dorrit, Inez, W. G. F., Boxer, are correct.

**SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 619.** by M. C. C., Omega, Little Dorrit, Manxman, Boxer, Iota, Spectator, M. P., S. H. W., Mission, Miles, A Working Smith, Bombardier, F. K. of Norwich, C. P. J., Oxford, are correct.

**SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 620.** by F. R. of Norwich, Bombardier, A Workman, Clericus, H. T. B., Major W. B. A., Cautley, D. D., Medcus, Derevon, M. and E. P., Fitzpaine, a e correct.

**SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS.** by B. B., Delta, W. Cumberland, W. C. C., Philo Mitoko, Rhmoots, Little Dorrit, Miles, D. D., Observer, Dugger, A. P. Z., S. P. Q. R., Omicron, Mus. Doc., L. L. D., J. F. P., W. M., G. P., Czar, Fritz, Derevon, Pavitt, M. D. P., Mrs. Philocody, R. J., Southport, Tunkin, Basley, E. S., are correct. All others are wrong.

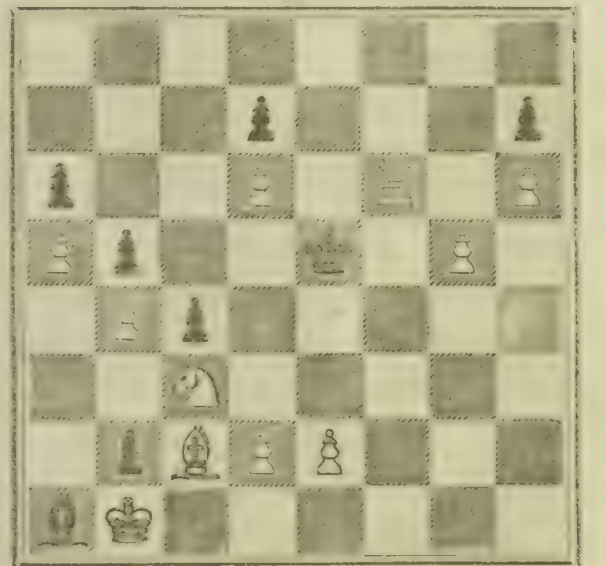
**SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 621.**

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to K Kt 5th	R takes B (best)	4. Kt to K 4th (ch)	K takes B
2. Kt to Q 2d (dis ch)	P to Q 4th	5. Q to Q Kt 3rd (ch)	Anything.
3. B takes Q P (ch)	K to Q 3rd	6. Q Mates.	

## PROBLEM No. 622.

By Mr. W. GRIMSIAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

SIR,—Will you allow me, through the medium of your Chess column, to correct a mistake into which I have fallen with respect to one of Mr. Staunton's matches?

At page 155 of the "Chess-players' Annual" in reporting from recollection a conversation with Mr. Staunton, I make him say that on his first arrival in London he was invited by Mr. Lewis to play a match with Mr. Alexandre—that the match was played—and that Mr. Staunton won every game.

I am informed by Mr. Staunton that this statement is incorrect, and that the true version is as follows:—"About the year 1833 Mr. Staunton joined the Old Westminster Club, and one of the frequenters of that Club (not Mr. Lewis) asked Mr. S. to engage in a match with Alexandre. Being a young player, Mr. Staunton felt flattered by the proposal, and a contest was soon arranged. It consisted of twenty-one games; but these were so far from being uniformly won by Mr. Staunton, that he confesses to a distinct remembrance of the mortifying defeat he experienced during all the earlier sittings of the match.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

CHARLES TOMLINSON.

12, Bedford-place, Amphil-square, Jan. 14, 1856.

## CHESS ENIGMAS.

No 967.—By CAROLUS, Dundee.

White: K at K Kt 8th, R at K Kt 3rd and Q Kt 5th, Bs at Q sq and K R 6th, Kt at K 2nd and K B 3rd, P at Q 3d.

Black: K at K B 4th, Q at K 4th, Bs at K B 6th and Q Kt 7th; Ps at Q 5th, K 6th, K B 3rd, K R 4th, and K Kt 5th.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 968.—By W. C. C.

White: K at Q 8th, B at Q B 6th, Kt at Q R 8th, P at Q R 6th.

Black: K at Q Kt sq, P at Q R 2nd.

White playing first, mates in seven moves.

No. 969.—By C. W., of Sunbury.

White: K at his 6th, R at Q B 6th, B at K B 5th, Ps at K Kt 3rd and K B 2nd.

Black: K at Q 5th, Ps at K B 6th and Q 3rd.

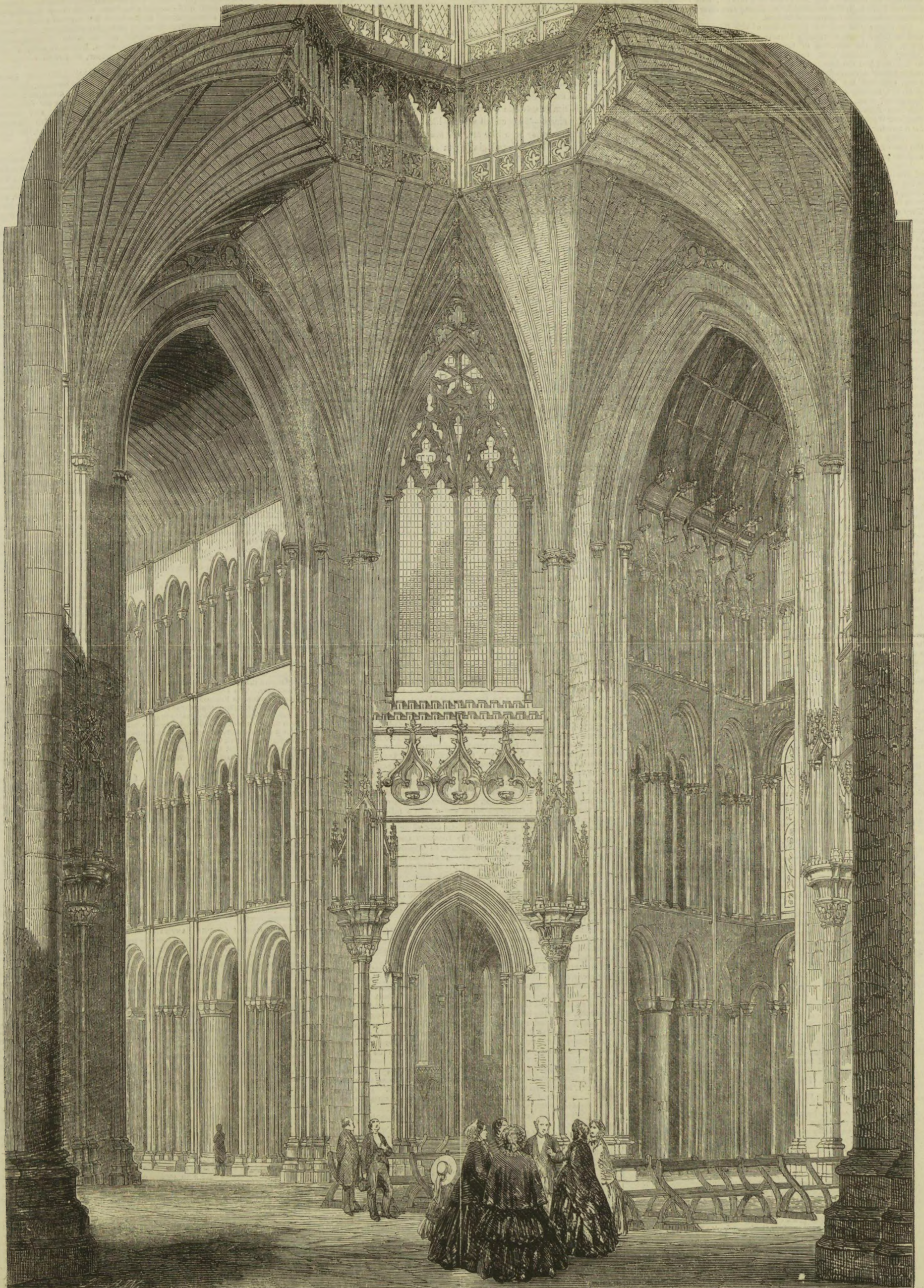
White to play, and mate in five moves.





ELY CATHEDRAL, RESTORED.—THE CHOIR.—(SEE PAGE 78.)





ELY CATHEDRAL, RESTORED—THE OCTAGON.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



## RESTORATION OF ELY CATHEDRAL.

THE foundation of the magnificent ecclesiastical pile of Ely is due to the piety of St. Etheldreda, who was born at a small village called Exning, near Newmarket, about the year 630. The early part of her life she devoted to the cloisters. About the year 652 she married, at the solicitation of her parents, Tonbert, a nobleman of East Anglia. By this marriage the island of Ely fell to her as a dowry; and thither, after the death of Tonbert, which occurred about three years after their espousals, she retired to her former pious meditations.

She afterwards married Egfrid, son of the King of Northumberland, and by this alliance eventually became Queen. She then withdrew from court, with the sanction of the King, took up her abode in the Abbey of Coldingham, took the veil; and at length retired to Ely, and laid the foundation of her church and monastery, over which she reigned Abbess about six years. Her fame for piety and her gentle sway endeared her to all around; and she died, honoured by all, A.D. 679, leaving the island of Ely as an endowment to this convent. Her sister, Sexburga, succeeded her, and lived twenty years as Abbess. This lady was followed by her daughter Erminilda; and Erminilda, by her daughter Werberga. Little is known after this of the heads of the convent for a number of years.

During the troublesome incursions of the Danes the monastery shared the fate of many other places—it was pillaged, its sacred walls destroyed, and the people put to the sword. This occurred about the year 870.

About the year 970 the monastery was restored by Ethelwold, Bishop of Winchester. It was successively governed by nine Abbots; the ninth being Simeon, the founder of the present structure—that is to say, of the choir, transepts, central tower, and a portion of the nave. These parts were begun A.D. 1083; but Simeon did not live to see them finished. They were completed by his successor, Abbot Richard. Of this work it is ascertained that little more than the lowest story of the great transept remains. The nave, composed of twelve bays, is very noble in effect: it is in the Norman style, and was completed about the year 1174. The great tower at the western end was built about 1189. The Gallies, for which Ely is so famed, forms a porch at the western end. It is a fine specimen of the Early English style; and is decorated with four rows of arches and pillars, externally. Internally, the length is taken up by two large pointed arches, under which are two tiers of smaller size—five and three—supported by slender shafts, originally of Purbeck marble. The Rev Mr. Miller, in his description of Ely Cathedral, thus accounts for the term "Gallies":—"As Gallies, bordering on the Gentiles was the most remote part of the Holy Land, from the Holy city of Jerusalem, so was this part of the building, most distant from the sanctuary, occupied by those unhappy persons, who during their exclusion from the mysteries, were reputed scarcely, if at all, better than heathens." This portion of the fabric was built by Bishop Eustachius about 1200—1215. The falling down of the central tower, about 1322, gave rise to the formation of the great octagon and lantern, and the three splendid arches on each side the choir—executed during the episcopacy of Bishop Hotham. The little chapels of Bishops Alcock and West are of the respective dates of 1488 and 1534, and are rich specimens of the period. We have now given briefly the early history of the Cathedral. It only remains for us to notice the restorations lately made.

Our Engravings represent the Choir, taken from the north-east; and the Grand Octagon, from the south-east, angle. It is quite impossible to enter this venerable and interesting fabric without feeling how well the restorations have been executed and carried out, in mass and in detail. There is one fault about restoration which cannot, unfortunately, be avoided—it takes away the pleasing effects which time alone can give by its softening influence to the stone and to colour. The restorations of Ely Cathedral have been going on quietly—first under the superintendence of the present talented Dean, Dr. Peacock; and lately, from the year 1847, under the able direction of Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, the eminent architect, of Spring gardens. Much of the building remains to be repaired; but, as the choir and octagon are complete, with the exception of the altar-screen (a representation of which we have already given)—a really lovely piece of work, in stone and alabaster—Divine service is not checked.

The entire appearance of the choir is new, so thoroughly has it been cleansed and decorated. The ceiling, with its groinings and gilded bosses, has been renewed. The old stalls have been retouched and perfected, the sub-stalls are quite new, as is also the rood screen, seen in our view across the end of the choir. This last is a marvellous piece of work, designed by Mr. Scott, to harmonize with the stalls—it is executed, as well as the stalls, by Ratter, of Cambridge. The foliated brass work, and twisted columns to the gates, are by Hardman, of Birmingham. Under the canopies of the upper stalls, are a number of figures—statuettes of benefactors to the church: these are designed by Mr. Philip, of Pimlico, and partly executed by him and Mr. Ratter.

The organ-case is by the last-named eminent carver, and painted and gilded by Castell, of London. The propriety of the position of this organ may be a matter of opinion: to us it appears to damage the effect of Hotham's lovely arches, and produces a feeling that the instrument will fall on those who may be beneath it. The choristers' desks are light and elegant in form, painted in pale blue and yellow: the ironwork is by Potter, of South Molton-street.

The entire flooring has been relaid in encaustic tiles and marble, the latter in lozenges. A marble slab has been laid in the flooring to the memory of Bishop Hotham, with his arms and those of the see in brass. The pre-bytery, or that portion of the choir forming the immediate front of our illustration, is floored also with encaustic tiles, only more varied, and richer in pattern. The altar-table has an ante-podium of crimson velvet, having near the top the following inscription:—"Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem. Agnus Dei, miserere nobis," in gold letters. The centre represents the figure of Our Saviour upon a deep blue ground, surrounded by radiating beams; it is the work of the Misses Blencowe, of Lynn, in Norfolk.

The tombs to Bishops Redmayne, Kilkenny, and De Luda, have all been carefully restored; and the Purbeck marble columns have been repolished.

Whether seen from the east or from the west, the Octagon forms a grand feature in the Cathedral of Ely. Millers, in his History of the Cathedral says, "Elegance, magnificence, and strength are so happily blended that it is impossible to determine in what respect it is most admirable." Advancing towards its centre from the nave we have the beautiful Norman transepts on each side, with their stained-glass windows, by Wailes, of Newcastle, and Gerente, of Paris; and immediately opposite, the lovely screen of the choir. It originally formed the centre of the choir; but in 1770 it was removed, and the choir thrown back to its present position. The whole of this, like the choir, has undergone complete repair, from floor to lantern.

## CHARADE.

BY T. K. HERVEY.

## III.

THE trooper arose at the dawn of day,  
And saddled his good grey steed,  
And furnished himself for his long, dull way  
With all that a trooper might need.  
He threw on his cloak, with a martial air,  
And buckled his belted sword,  
And he shouted aloud for my FIRST—as a pair—  
In the terms of a compound word.

The trooper he rode with a trooper's speed,  
Yet the hour was dark and late  
When, weary, he sprang from his weary steed,  
Mid the lights at the barrack gate.  
He threw off his mantle, unbuckled his sword,  
And, impatient to part with my First,  
For my SECOND he called in the very same word,  
With its double terms revert.

Now,—good though he might be in foray or fight,—  
Our trooper seems somewhat absurd,  
What he called for at morning to banish at night  
By the trick of the turn of a word.  
What—mortal or magical, blest or accursed—  
Were the things could thus do and undo,—  
Whose Second, to serve him, had power o'er the First,  
And, as One, was the master of Two!

## ANSWERS TO CHARADES IN OUR LAST.

No. I.—Bedford.

II.—Nightmare.

THE PRUSSIAN MERCHANT NAVY.—An official return just published at Stettin shows that the merchant navy of Prussia at the beginning of the present year consisted of 900 vessels, of 139,368 tons burden; which is three vessels and 3275 tons more than at the corresponding period of last. In the course of last year 67 vessels were built, but 30 others were lost, and 14 sold.

## A CADGER'S REMONSTRANCE.

It's very well, my noble swells, to rail at such as me,  
Because I send the kinchins (a) out to ask your charities;  
It's very well to call us names, like "trulls" and "wagabones,"  
Because we ply the cadging (b) lay instead of breaking stones.  
It's gape-seed (c), isn't it, my swells, that, while you drinks your wine,  
We slews our ivories (d) with a drop, and then kicks up a shine? (e)  
Afore you calls us names agen, just listen unto me,  
And hear my bringings-up, and then say what else could I be.  
I'm workhouse born and gutter-bred, for soon as I could crawl  
They left me in our unswept "lane" alone for hours to sprawl;  
My little limbs was like a crust of dirt from day to day;  
On filthy straw—'twas called a bed—like some brute-beast I lay.  
A drunken mother born like me, her mate a flashman (f) bold,  
Who'd served the braggadocio (g) more times than could be told;  
But growing tired of the jugs, (h) as once I heard him say,  
Because "he know'd 'em inside out," took to the cadging lay.  
And I was taught by downy Sal each artful dodge she knew,  
To gammon (i) shivers, sores, and all the tricks which money drew;  
But then the cold was very sharp—and so our kinchins find,  
But they must do as I have done—or else they'll hear my mind.  
I've shivered in the snow and rain, and had my share of blows.  
Who cared for me in my young days? Why, no one, that I know!  
P'raps, if I'd not been bred a beast, I might have been a man,  
And thought it was a shame to live the best way that I can.  
I might have worked and earned my bread, had some one taught me how.

But Lord! I'd rather steal than dig—I can't do nothing now.  
As I'm getting old and weak (I'm wellnigh forty-three),  
I don't mind saying this, my swells, you're more to blame than me.  
You leaves our young to learn of us the dodges that we know;—  
You let us sow the seeds of ill, then wonders that they grow.  
Just think of that, my noble swells, when next you rail at me,  
Because I sends my kinchins out to ask "your charities."—M. L.

(a) Children. (b) Begging. (c) Wonder. (d) Wash the teeth. (e) A row. (f) Thief. (g) Short imprisonment. (h) Prisons. (i) Counterfeit.

## WATER SUPPLY.

THE great importance of the use of pure water for domestic and dietetic purposes is now so generally recognised that it might seem almost superfluous to insist upon the noxious influence exercised upon the human frame by the constant use of this fluid when teeming with vegetable and animal putridities at once offensive to the palate and sufficiently evident to the eye. It may not, however, be so generally known that water which to the ordinary observer may seem clear and limpid and pleasant to the taste, especially when first drawn from the receptacle in which it has been preserved, may contain within it the seeds of disease most hurtful to the body, as has been abundantly proved by the microscopical observation and analytical examination of the most eminent scientific inquirers of the present day.

During the epidemic of cholera in 1848-49 the strong influence of the use of impure water in predisposing to attacks of that disease was sufficiently proved; and in the epidemic of 1854 still more striking statistical evidence of this fact was elicited. The great outbreak of cholera in Broad-street, Golden-square, and the surrounding neighbourhood, in the latter epidemic will be long remembered; and the great mortality from this attack has been clearly traced to the impure water used by the neighbourhood, and more particularly to that obtained from the Broad-street pump, while those who drank that obtained from another source were comparatively free. In several instances the drinking of this water was followed by cholera, even by persons living at some distance from the district, to whom the water was sent. In the workhouse where this pump water was not used only 5 deaths occurred; whereas 50 would have been a ratio proportionate to the neighbourhood around. In a factory near, employing 200 people, where the water was drunk daily, 18 people died; while 70 men, employed at the Brewery, in Broad-street, never drank the water and all escaped cholera. The water of this well was afterwards proved to be contaminated by the escape into it of the contents of sewers and drains. Still, when first obtained, it was clear and limpid, and was preferred. If, however, a glass of it was kept for a short time exposed to the air, it soon became putrid and offensive.

One more instance of the tendency of impure water to produce this disease is very remarkable. In the epidemic of 1849 the cholera was more fatal in the districts supplied by the Southwark and Vauxhall and the Lambeth Water Companies, than in any other. The former company supplied water from the Thames, at Battersea-fields, about half a mile above Vauxhall-bridge; the latter from opposite Hungerford-market. The pipes of these two companies pass together down the streets of several of the south districts. Between 1849 and 1853 the Lambeth Company removed their works from opposite Hungerford market to Thames Ditton—thus supplying water, quite free from the sewage of London. Now in the first four weeks of the cholera epidemic of 1854, 286 fatal attacks took place in the houses supplied by the Southwark and Vauxhall; but only 14 in the houses supplied by the latter: the proportion of deaths to each 10,000 houses being—Southwark and Vauxhall, 71; Lambeth, 5. The difference, it will be observed, is very considerable, and can readily be explained by the peculiarities of the water. In addition to these very marked instances there can be no reasonable doubt that the increased mortality from diarrhoea and other diseases of an epidemic character is greatly increased by the impure supply of water—the impurities being much augmented by the long-continued heat of the weather, especially in the autumnal months.

There are three principal means of purification of water. Purification by deposition is effected by collecting water in large basins or reservoirs, and allowing it to remain stagnant till the mechanical impurities are deposited at the bottom, after which the supernatant fluid is drawn off. By this means the impurities that are held in suspension are alone separated, while the large size of the reservoirs and the long time required for subsidence, render the amount of water which can be obtained in this manner very small in proportion to the outlay required; and the putrefying gases which must result from the decomposition of the organic matter which subsides cause the water so obtained to be anything but agreeable.

The second method is that of purification by reagents—as alum or lime—which form a weighty precipitate when added to the water, and, while subsiding, take down with them certain organic matters. These processes resemble somewhat in principle the common domestic operation of clarifying liquids, as coffee, by boiling it with the white of egg. This, although found to answer in the laboratory, is difficult of application on an extended scale.

The third method is that of purification by filtration. To be perfect a filter should be capable of separating both mechanical and chemical impurities. To effect this the water is passed through a porous substance, which will arrest the progress of mechanical impurities, and at the same time act chemically and withdraw such matters as are in solution.

On a large scale the process of cleansing now adopted consists essentially in making the water pass through a considerable thickness of gravel, sand, or finely-divided stones, arranged in a succession of layers. In some cases the water is first purified by subsidence as above mentioned, and afterwards made to traverse these layers. The nature of the stone depends much on the locality of the reservoir, and other circumstances, sometimes the natural constituents in the soil supplying the most appropriate material. In addition to those substances which act by separating mechanical impurities only, other materials, especially animal charcoal and certain species of clay, are used, and these substances possess the remarkable property of withdrawing all traces of animal and vegetable matter, even when in a state of perfect solution. In some forms of filter the water is made to pass from above downwards through the various purifying media; while, in others, the current is sent in an opposite direction passing from below upwards, so that the pure water passes to the top, and is drawn off from that surface.

For domestic purposes numerous varieties of filters have been brought

before the public. Wool and sponge, as media for filtration, have had their respective advocates: they act mechanically merely. The expense of the former would render it inapplicable on a large scale, and the latter would require frequent renewal: the heavier earthy matters might be retained; but the minute organic and animalcula contents would not be arrested thereby. It is in the removal of these that animal charcoal is particularly useful—its peculiar absorbent powers, both for gaseous and other organic matters being very remarkable. So strong is the affinity which it possesses for vegetable and animal matters, that water containing the most poisonous substances, after being passed through a layer of animal charcoal, may be taken with impunity. Vegetable charcoal possesses the same properties, though in a less degree. Laudanum, which is of a dark port-wine colour, if passed through it, comes out free from colour and odour.

We have, then, in this material a most valuable disinfectant agent. When used alone as a medium for filtration, it soon becomes, however, more or less completely matted together, and the rate of filtration becomes very slow. Hence it requires to be mingled with some other substance, as fine sand, stone, &c., which will hasten the process, and prevent the clogging up of the filter; but as the supply of this material is small, and can be obtained only from certain districts, at some expense, its general use has not been rendered practicable. The patent stone of Messrs. Ransome and Co., which can be manufactured with any amount of porosity, according as it may be required; and its incapability of being affected by ordinary menstrua, afforded a means of artificial filtrat on which happily suggested itself to the inventor, and which has been employed for that purpose with the most satisfactory result. By the use of plates of this substance and layers of charcoal, and the adoption of the principle of ascension, the most complete separation of impurities, whether in suspension or in chemical solution, or of gaseous matters, the products of putrefaction, can be readily effected.

It will be obvious that the first stratum of materials through which water containing much mechanical impurities must be especially prone to become clogged up, so that a uniform supply of clear water must be difficult to obtain, while the occasional removal of such matters will be difficult without disturbing the water which has been already filtered through it. In the method of filtration which is now most common, that namely by ascension, this difficulty is overcome.

Amongst the prominent filters of the present day, as combining the above requisites, &c., we would notice those of Messrs. Ransome and Co., in which these gentlemen have happily contrived the most perfect medium for filtration that has come under our notice, and adapted in various forms, for all the requirements of personal, domestic, or manufacturing purposes. By the employment of discs or boxes of a peculiarly fine yet porous stone, enveloping a bed of animal charcoal, they secure the most effective apparatus in an incredibly small space, thus rendering their filters exceedingly portable and light, whilst at the same time, owing to the perfect simplicity of construction, the filtering medium can easily be removed and renovated at pleasure.

These gentlemen have recognised the importance of the principle of filtration by ascension, and their filters and water-purifiers are constructed so as to secure this end, by means of which the mechanical impurities separated from the water subside at the bottom of a chamber prepared for that purpose, instead of being deposited in the heart of the filter, as has hitherto been the case in filters of the ordinary construction.

Our space will not allow of our describing more in detail the various forms of filters manufactured by this firm; they are as numerous as the requirements of the public in this respect—and doubtless full information will be readily furnished to any inquirer, either at their manufactory, Ipswich, or at their dépôt, Whitehall-wharf, Cannon-row, Westminster.

ALLIANCE BETWEEN BRAZIL AND THE ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.—It is rumoured, says the *British Packet*, of Dec 1, that an alliance has been formed between Brazil and the Confederate Provinces against the Government of Paraguay. It is said that the Imperial Envoy has stipulated to give the President 2,500,000 dollars to equip a contingent of 3000 men, to act in concert with an Imperial land and naval force; and that moreover there is a reserved stipulation, by which the empire engages to guarantee the integrity of the Argentine territory.

RUSSIAN STATISTICS.—The almanack for the present year, published by the Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg, gives the following statistics:—The number of births in 1854 were 2,672,152 individuals of the Greek orthodox religion, 75,353 Lutherans, 18,590 Armenians, 95,353 Catholics, 48,075 Jews, and 95,233 Mahometans; total, 3,002,792 births. The deaths amounted to 2,272,336; consequently, the increase in the population is 470,456. The mines in the Ural mountains, Siberia, and the Caucasus, produced in the same year 63,264 lb. of gold, 27 of platinum, and 41,445 of silver.

NEW ROAD BETWEEN RASSOVA AND KUSTENDJEH.—The *Presse d'Orient* says that the construction of the road between Rassoova and Kustendjeh, to facilitate the communications of the Danube with the Black Sea without passing by the mouths of the river, has been completed, and the road is now practicable. The engineers who had come to superintend the operations are about to return to France. This undertaking (says the *Presse*) has given rise to interesting medical observations as to climate. The soil of the Dobrudzha, which has been represented as impregnated with deleterious miasma, has not been fatal to one of the 300 workmen who have been employed by the engineers. This is a fact worthy of remark, particularly when we bear in mind the efforts frequently produced by works of this kind, in the most favoured countries, when opened for the first time. It must be mentioned, however, that the men employed were Moldavians and Wallachians, all vigorous, sober, and well insured to fatigue.

COMMERCE OF BELGIUM.—The foreign commerce of Belgium increases yearly. In 1854 the imports for home consumption amounted to 343,500,000 francs; and the exports of Belgian produce to 389,000,000 francs. Amongst the chief articles exported figure:—Grain, 79,555,000 kilos; flax, 25,500,000 kilos; refined sugar, 21,500,000; hops, 3,600,000 kilos; horses and colts, 20,000 head; cattle, 222,400 head, against 100,000 imported; and cloth to the value of 19,000,000 francs. The chief commerce is with France, and goods to the value of 118,500,000 francs were exported from Belgium in 1854. The value of 105,000,000 francs were dispatched to England, chiefly in provisions: amongst which figure 28,500,000 kilos. of grain; 45,451 head of cattle; 1,249,000 kilos. of meat; 3,302,000 kilos. of butter; and 1,300,000 francs' worth of eggs. Holland and the Zilveren figure in the third and fourth rank of the commercial relations of Belgium. The receipts of Belgian customs duties in 1854 amounted to 11,569,000 francs. The following, according to the tables just published at Antwerp, is the list of maritime disasters which occurred in the year 1855:—Wrecks, 192; collisions, 743—of which 69 were lately lost; destroyed by fire, 62; steamers lost, 123—11 being French, 44 English, 55 American, and 13 divers flags.

SUPPRESSION OF THE SANTHAL INSURRECTION.—The Santal insurrection seems now over: the last of the insurgents in the field have been surrounded, and Kanoo, the only leader of note remaining amongst them, has been captured. The troops, it is supposed, will be suffered to return to quarters, the police being considered sufficient from henceforth to maintain the peace. The latest operations against them are of some interest, as being more decided and vigorous than most of those preceding them. On the 20th of November a body of troops were dispatched to Roxadungai; and, though none were found at this particular point, their track was discovered by men sent up in the trees. The troops pushed on and found themselves all at once, to their surprise, in the centre of a great encampment, with the cooking pots still on the fire, and which had not been abandoned for above ten minutes. The insurgents to the amount of 1500, were scattered in parties of from 200 to 300 in the brush-wood all around, over a space of four or five square miles in extent. The troops at length came in contact with them, plunged into a tremendous bamboo jungle, and drove the Santals before them. They finished by burning from twenty or twenty-five villages, and by showing the enemy that none of their fastnesses were impenetrable. On the 30th detachments were sent out by General Lloyd, if possible, to capture the remaining insurgents; and in this they were entirely successful. Ensign Allen having arrived the following day with all the most important prisoners in charge, Kanoo included.—*Bombay Times*, Dec. 17.

BERLIN AND LONDON AT VARIANCE.—It appears that the Earl of Clarendon, at an interview which Count de Bernstorff, the Prussian Ambassador at London, had with him, complained of the conduct pursued by Prussia in the Eastern question. The Earl expressed himself very unequivocally as to the pretended neutrality of Prussia; he complained that that Power continued to supply Russia with large quantities of warlike stores, and that the Prussian Government, by tolerating such conduct, gave assistance to the enemy of France and England. The Earl also expressed his surprise that superior officers of the Prussian army should have been present at the fête organised by the Russian Ambassador to celebrate the surrender of Kara; and that the name of Kara should have been used at a review at Berlin as a *mot d'ordre*, as if the victory gained by the Russians was glorious for the arms of Prussia. "If England," continued his Lordship, "does not see in all these facts so many demonstrations in favour of Russia, she cannot avoid remarking the carelessness with which Prussia maintains her moral co-operation. England will, therefore, find herself compelled to adopt serious and even hostile measures, if the Cabinet of Berlin does not change its attitude." The Prussian Ambassador addressed a confidential despatch to his Government, in which he related in detail the result of his interview. This despatch arrived at Berlin when M. de Manteuffel was in Lusitania, and he returned to Berlin the instant he was informed of the receipt of it. A council of Ministers was assembled, under the presidency of the King, and the communications made by the Earl of Clarendon to the Prussian Ambassador were the subject of a long discussion. Although the declarations of England have produced a deep impression here, it does not appear that Prussia makes any attempt to put an end to the acts of which the English Minister complains. It is, therefore, considered very possible that the Prussian ports in the Baltic will be placed in a state of blockade.—*Letter from Berlin in the "Danube" of Vienna*.



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ANTIQUITIES FOUND NEAR HEAD-QUARTERS, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL

THE present page presents considerable attractions for the lover of antiquities, akin to the interest of the site as the seat of the War. Both illustrations are from the pencil of our Special Artist, Mr. Goodall. The lower Engraving shows the interior of the Church of St. Vladimir, in the Russian Cemetery, on the French extreme left. The edifice is circular in plan; and the walls and room are embellished with portraits of sacred character, in addition to what appears to be a celestial representation above the large figure on the cross. The group of objects engraved above the view of the Cemetery Church, are specimens of the various antiquities found in an ancient building discovered by Colonel Monroe, 39th Regiment, near the Head-quarters in the Camp before Sebastopol. The discovery is thus graphically related in one of the able letters of the *Times* Correspondent:—

'All about the plateau of the Chersonese, you find traces of old buildings, scattered about in various directions, and easily recognisable from the number of large cut stones lying about. One of these heaps, just on the top of the Col de Balacava, a few hundred yards from the English head-quarters, must have struck every one last year coming up from Balacava to the plateau. During the winter, however, French cavalry was encamped near the spot, and the consequence was that most of the stones which were lying above ground were taken away for hut and kitchen building, and thus were scattered about, leaving no mark on the place where they had been taken from. On October 26th a party of the 4th Foot was collecting stones in that place, and one of the men found an old coin, which he brought to his officer, Lieutenant Nash; who, in his turn, told the thing to Captain Patton, of the same regiment. This latter went up with the coin to Colonel Munroe, of the 39th; who, being himself an antiquary, took up the matter, and received permission from head-quarters to employ every

day fifty men of his regiment in excavating these ruins. The result richly repaid the labour, and a circular building, about thirty feet in diameter, with the traces of two lateral lines of walls—one running in a southerly, the other in an easterly direction—have been laid open. The circular building is divided from north to south by a wall; in the eastern part of the semicircle thus formed is the door, which faces south, and a kind of well, narrow at the mouth, and then expanding as it descends lower down; opposite to it is a large slab, forming a parallelogram of about eight feet by four, standing upright, and surrounded by a circular wall of small stones, different in construction from the rest of the building, which is composed of the regularly-cut stones of Greek architecture. But the most curious thing in this compartment is a slab horizontally imbedded in the corner formed by the north side of the outside wall and the partition wall. The edges of it are somewhat higher than the middle, and on the end of the slab which faces the interior a kind of gutter is cut out, as if to facilitate the running down of fluid. A similar stone is on the other side of the partition-wall, only having the gutter in a right angle with that of the slab in the first compartment. The second compartment itself is divided from east to west by a wall, on both sides of which the whole remaining space is filled with the remains of thirteen large circular earthen vases, of about four feet in diameter. They are all broken to pieces, and only held by adhering to the earth in which they lie. They must have been of an amphora shape, narrow at the mouth, as one can see from the fragments of edges which have been dug out. On the sides of some there are triangular rivets of lead, very likely old repairs; two of the vases are double, one inside the other. Neither the parts of the buildings yet laid open, nor the different objects found in the rubbish throw much light on the nature of the building. The objects found consist of eight or ten brass coins, all of the same kind, marked on both sides with what looks like a cross, with the points split

and inclining downwards; a heap of remains of jars, on a piece of which I thought I recognised Arabic characters; some bones of animals, and the figure of a man from the legs downwards. Colonel Munroe thinks it may be a Grecian temple; that the earthen jars were there to receive the blood of the victims, which flowed in from the two slabs, which he supposes to be the altars where the sacrifice was performed. I cannot help thinking it resembles more the circular tower of a fortress with the well, which resembles exactly the wells abounding in the neighbourhood of Eupatoria, and still in use. Nearly at the head of every ravine leading down from the upper part of the plateau of the Chersonese towards the sea or the harbour of Sebastopol you can see traces of buildings, with the same kind of square stones; and there are often two corresponding ones, as is the case on the spot where the excavation has taken place. On the opposite side, just below the French head-quarters, there is another such heap of ruins as I remember to have seen on the site of the excavation last year, which contains very likely a similar building. Between the two, in the hollow formed by the beginning of the ravine, which is no other than the ravine leading to the Dockyard Creek, is a well, which ought to be perhaps brought into connection with the two buildings. Of course, it is only by further excavations that the question can be decided. The earthen jars seem the greatest puzzle, unless one perhaps supposes them to have been magazines for grain, which are even now not uncommon in some parts of the East.

Our Artist's selection from these interesting fragments of ancient art includes the lower portion of the vase; a lamp; some coins; a terracotta head; and some pieces of pottery bearing figures and specimens of classic ornamentation. The circular building, or rather portions of its roof, were engraved in the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* for Dec. 8.



CHURCH OF ST. VLADIMIR, IN A RUSSIAN CEMETERY, FRENCH EXTREME LEFT.